

THE

# Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

## THE EXAMPLE OF WALES.

AT the meeting of the Welsh Congregational Union at Portmadoc, Mr. Henry Richard made some remarks on the Free Churches of the Principality, the truth of which thousands of tourists during the present month have the opportunity of verifying for themselves. The voluntarism of Christianity is said by many to be an abstract theory, very beautiful in circumstances which do not happen to exist, but totally inapplicable to the world as it is. It is even admitted that the Free-Church principle may work fairly well in great towns, though even there it is said to neglect the lower and poorer districts. In vain is it replied that the remarkable multiplication of churches and parsonages, in these very districts, by the zeal of Episcopalians, is itself a noble illustration of the power of voluntarism. We are still pointed to the rural districts, to sparsely-peopled hills and dales, or to villages inhabited almost exclusively by agricultural labourers; and we are asked triumphantly how it is possible to imagine that the spiritual wants of such localities could be provided for if there were no Church Establishment to look after them. The people have not the means, we are told, either for building their own places of worship or paying their own ministers; and nothing but a parochial system, organised under Government authority, could possibly meet the peculiar difficulties of a widely-scattered population.

In answer to such plausible arguments, Mr. Richard, with pardonable pride, challenged attention to his native country. The occasion naturally suggested some remarks on this subject. Having gone to Portmadoc to attend the meetings of the Union, he was asked to lay the foundation-stone of a new Independent chapel, intended as a memorial of the late Rev. William Ambrose, who had been for thirty-seven years a minister in the town. Having traced the story of Independency there, he went on to speak of the encouragement Welsh experience ought to afford to those who gloomily forebode that, if national endowments were withdrawn, religion "would decay and perish in those parts of the country where the population is poor, sparse, and scattered." Now this is precisely a description of the population in Wales. And not only is that the case, but the mountainous cha-

racter of the greater part of the country tends to a peculiar isolation of remote villages, and, particularly in the winter, causes special difficulties both to preachers and people. Still farther, the principle of establishment and endowment had proved itself utterly incompetent to provide for the religious needs of Wales. In fact, under its slumbrous influences the very sense of religious need had almost died away. In the early part of last century nothing could have seemed more hopeless than the spiritual condition of the Principality. The Universities, from which it was then almost a point of honour for the Church to draw the whole of her clergy, could furnish but few Welsh-speaking clergymen, while the vast majority of the people could scarcely understand a word of English. The difficulties in the way of itinerant Methodism were also far greater than in England. There were probably scarcely half-a-dozen good roads in the whole of the country. Such communication as was necessary to enable the little farmers, hidden in the valleys or scattered on the moors, to sell their produce or provide for their wants, was kept up by mere pack-horse tracks, or by mountain paths, accessible only on foot. But little had been done to develop the mineral resources of the mountains or the coal-fields; and within the borders of civilisation there was probably scarcely anywhere a poorer people than the Welsh. Any proposition to depend henceforward entirely upon the free action of voluntary zeal for the evangelisation of a country such as this would at that time have been looked upon as sheer lunacy.

And yet, as a matter of fact, the movements which have made the Welsh people perhaps the most universally religious population on the earth have had absolutely no other support whatever. It is true, indeed, that during the last twenty-five years the Anglican Church in Wales has shared in the general awakening; but the stimulus is to be sought outside its borders, and the efforts it has made to overtake rivals have been supported, as Mr. Richard said, "in the main, if not wholly, by the liberality of the people." There is nothing in ecclesiastical history, except perhaps the conversion of Madagascar, that renders a more marvellous tribute to the vitality of Christianity than the story of the religious regeneration of Wales. A few apostolic men, uniting with their religious convictions an intense sympathy with their race, and possessing a perfect mastery of its poetic and rhetorical language, travelled from village to village appealing, in words that every one could understand, to the diviner nature of their fellow-countrymen. A spark of new life passed through the people; the recesses of the mountains saw congregations assembled vast as those which were gathered on the hills of Galilee in the beginning of the Gospel. A new literature of hymns and sermons and religious books sprang up which manifested its hold upon the people by the new vitality that it imparted to the language. Under the great wave of inspiration that rolled over the land all material difficulties disappeared. Amongst the people who were gathered into congregations the apostolic experience of the churches of Macedonia was renewed. "In a great trial of affliction, the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality." The progress in the erection of chapels was at first, indeed, comparatively

slow; but, as the resources of the country were developed and the means of communication were improved, that progress outstripped the most sanguine dreams of the first apostles of the revival. As Mr. Richard tells us, "in 1742 the number of Nonconformist chapels in Wales was 110, in 1775 it was 171, in 1816 it had grown to 993, in 1851 to 2,286, and in 1871 to 3,500." At the date of the Census of Religious Worship it was found that of the sittings in places of worship the Anglican Churches furnished 30 per cent. and the Nonconformists 70 per cent. In answer to the assertion, more easily made than proved, that since 1851 this proportion has been largely altered in favour of the Church, Mr. Richard said that in 1871 he had looked into the matter with some care, and he found that in the twenty years preceding, three denominations alone—the Calvinistic Methodists, the Independents, and the Baptists—had built 581 new chapels, while the Anglicans had erected 110 new churches; and the same denominations had rebuilt and enlarged 734 chapels, as compared with 132 Churches rebuilt or enlarged by the Establishment. But, as Mr. Richard proceeded to say, although these figures show clearly that Free-Church principles as distinguished from Anglicanism show no diminution of popularity in Wales, the churches that have been built or renewed, are fairly to be put down to the voluntary principle. These figures, however, eloquent as they are, do not make anything like the same impression as a personal inspection of the country. These chapels have not been concentrated in the towns or more thickly populated districts. They are found hidden in glens, perched in mountain fastnesses, or standing in lonely hamlets where the passer-by must wonder where the congregation comes from. A Sunday's experience enlightens him. Then the mountain tracks and moorland paths are dotted everywhere with farmers and their peasants in their Sunday best, and gathering from all the scattered homesteads to the services which are to them more of a pleasure than an exercise. We are perfectly aware of all that may be said about the ugliness of the buildings, and the rude simplicity of the services. For ourselves we care little about such things, if only the diviner life of man is evoked. But art and education rarely linger long behind when a popular religion appeals to the higher faculties of man. The rudeness, that repels a euphuistic æstheticism, will disappear and is disappearing as schools are multiplied and literature is dispersed abroad. Meanwhile the example of Wales remains a triumphant and unanswerable vindication of the power of voluntary zeal to accomplish what an effete Establishment had attempted in vain.

## FINDING THE "PIOUS ANCESTOR."

THERE is, perhaps, a little too much disposition shown to slay that already slaughtered individual who goes by the name of the "Pious Ancestor," and we think that the lecturers of the Liberation Society sometimes err in attaching so much importance to what is said, by uninformed speakers on the other side, in respect to this subject. Nobody off a Church Defence platform believes in the existence of the person who has been dressed up with this title. If they did believe in him, the law would



not respect him. The Legislature would ignore his existence. When disendowment comes to be discussed in the Houses of Parliament, the "Pious Ancestor" will be treated as a myth—which he is; or, as Mark Twain would say, a "very defunct" person whose rights died long before legal memory. At any rate, let none of us devote too much time to him, or allow him to be trailed, as he has too often been trailed, across the path of more helpful and more profitable discussion. Let Church Defenders say what they like about the "Pious Ancestor," not a word of it will will ever pass through the walls of Parliament.

Notwithstanding this, however, there are special occasions when it may be desirable to deal with this pious old person another blow. A well-known correspondent of a Lancashire contemporary—the *Preston Guardian*—who signs himself "Felix," has certainly thought so, for he has produced, from his letters to that journal, a pamphlet of a hundred and twenty-eight pages, dealing exclusively with the "Pious Ancestor," and especially the pious ancestor in Lancashire. It is a happy idea of "Felix" to have localised him. He seems to be more tangible than he has been. If he has any existence, we can surely catch him when we know exactly where he may be found. Hitherto, all England has been his domain, but in an indefinite sort of way that is quite perplexing. For, when he has asked where, in all England, lived the individuals who, a thousand of years or so ago, left to the Protestant Episcopal Church established by Henry VIII., the tithes of fruit and vegetables which were introduced into the country, say in Queen Elizabeth's time, our defender only says, "Why, everywhere!" When we ask again where in all England lived the individuals who, a thousand or so years ago, gave the tithe of the produce of waste lands which were then the lands of the Crown alone, and which have only been brought into cultivation by special Acts of Parliament passed, say in the reign of Queen Victoria, we get an echo of the former answer,—"Why, everywhere!" Then you try to catch him somewhere, and, behold, he is a veritable "Will o' the Wisp."

Now, "Felix," of the *Preston Guardian*, has we are going to say, caught him. Well, he has tried very hard to catch him, and what does the reader think he has found? But, let us say, first, that one thing which is insisted upon, as a great benevolent work of the pious ancestor, is the building of churches, and in this work, no doubt, now and then, he makes a veritable and tangible appearance. The Church defender is not satisfied with this. He defies us to show him the church edifice which he did not build. "Felix," having disposed of the question in general, historically, legally, and logically, devotes sundry letters, especially in reply to the Lancashire Defenders, who always, by-the-by, seem to be endowed with special ignorance. Say they, "The Church is not a penny the richer for its connection with the State." Act after Act, tax after tax, rate after rate—with millions as the result here, and millions more as the result there, does "Felix" take them through, winding up each section with the refrain, "The Church no richer for its connection with the State?" Then he lays hands upon the Church Building Acts and the Church Building Returns. Our readers know all about these generally, and how handsomely and liberally they provided for spiritually destitute people in spiritually destitute places. The Legislature gave the Commissioners the money, and the Commissioners proceeded to spend it. They put up the ugliest and the costliest buildings—taking ugliness and costliness together—that have, perhaps, ever been erected. Two pages and a half of small type does "Felix" devote to a tabular statement of what they did for Lancashire. He finds 13,191l. paid for one church building in one sum in Ashton; 8,000l. in the same manner in Blackburn; 13,923l. in the same manner in Bolton; 12,387l. in Chorley; 6,799l. in Darwen; 6,703l. in Farnworth; 15,024l. in Hulme; 5,620l. in Horwich; 19,948l. for St. George's, Liverpool; 16,733l. for St. Matthew's, Manchester; 9,651l. in Prestwich; 16,804l. in Salford; 13,811l. in Stand, and so on—for space would fail us to enumerate all the items. Yet clergymen who are incumbents of the very places thus built out of Parliamentary grants stand upon Church Defence platforms, or write Church Defence articles, asserting without qualification, that "the property of the Church of England originated entirely in a voluntary manner, that it is formed by voluntary gifts, both in modern and ancient times."

The result of the prolonged investigation which "Felix" has made and has so ably presented to his readers, is, we need not say, the old result. He traces the "Pious Ancestor" here and there and everywhere in his own county, and he finds—an Act of Parliament.

#### SCOTTISH CHURCH NOTES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

We think of nothing at present in Scotland but the rain. For eight weeks it has rained more or less every day, and since Friday (I am now writing on Monday) it has been a ceaseless downpour. Yesterday there was a gale from the east as well, and in place of the bright sunshine of autumn we have, as Virgil puts it, "Night and Winter." The crops are of course suffering seriously, and altogether there is a very black look-out indeed. Last year the farmers in many places were almost ruined, this year their ruin will be completed. To make matters worse, trade does not improve, but the contrary, and a bitter war is waging between the proprietors of the coal mines and their hands. Under these circumstances one can scarcely wonder that the cry of the famine-stricken from India is heard with apparent indifference. Everything is out of joint, in fact; and what a year or two ago would have stirred us like the sound of a trumpet, now falls flat on the ear, as if it were the mere sigh of a passing breeze.

The Presbyterian Council held last month was an immense success. Edinburgh opened its heart and its homes to the many strangers who came to it, and from America and Australia and the European continent will come for a long time praises of its hospitality. Not that Edinburgh is really a very hospitable place. Its citizens don't stand at the corners of its streets and generously invite the passing wayfarers to come into their houses and rest. But when once the crust is broken the man who comes with good introductions will find any amount of kindness. The members of the Council came with good introductions, and some of the most famous among them had quite a little business to do every morning in answering invitations to dinner.

I have no doubt these conferences will tell in various ways, though not immediately or very sensibly. The Presbyterians after work have looked each other in the face, and come to know something of their potentialities; and they will by-and-by act in combination. Only a very small section of them have any connection with the State; and those who did represent the Established Churches were lost in the crowd. It is one of the peculiarities of the Established Church of Scotland that those whom we may call its great men (Tulloch, for example, and Caird) are not ecclesiastics, and those who are its leading ecclesiastics (such as Phin and Charteris) are not great men. These gentlemen, therefore, were no match for the Voluntaries from America—the heavier metal of Dr. Adams, Dr. Stuart Robinson, Dr. McCosh, and Dr. Hall being visible to the naked eye.

We are threatened with quite a crop of heresy trials. Professor Smith is arraigned for taking liberties with the canon; Dr. Marcus Dods has been asked to explain his views of inspiration; and Mr. Fergus Fergusson, a United Presbyterian minister of Glasgow, is being dealt with on account of certain doctrines which seem inconsistent with the Evangelical system he bound himself to support. In these holiday times these suits will not be pushed very urgently, but in a month or two the din of strife is sure to be heard over all the land. Among the changes which are said to be likely to happen is another in the editorship of the *Scotsman*. Rumour has it that a Mr. Cooper, who has been long on the staff, is likely to be promoted to the tripod. He was formerly, I believe, a Roman Catholic. The paper is so influential, for good or evil, that all of us may well wish it to be under good direction.

The Scottish Liberation Society has been unfortunate enough to lose its organising secretary at the outset of its career. Mr. Cowan, who was formerly Congregational minister at Saltair, has joined the English Presbyterian Church, and received a call to one of its congregations. He would have done the work of the society very efficiently. A successor to him has not yet been found. When the vacancy has been filled up, I suppose the work of agitation will begin in earnest. It is possible that a bill for the Disestablishment of the Church in Scotland may be introduced into next Parliament. That is a long look forward yet, so much may happen ere then, but all things are pointing in the direction of making this a subject for direct discussion with a view to speedy legislation.

#### THE PRIEST IN ABSOLUTION.

The following address has been forwarded by Lord Abergavenny, on behalf of the memorialists, to the Archbishop of Canterbury:—

To the Most Reverend the Archbishops and Right Reverend the Bishops of the Church of England. We, the undersigned, lay members of the Church of

England, beg to draw your lordships' attention to the late disclosures concerning the book entitled "The Priest in Absolution," printed at the request of the clergy of the Church of England united in a society called "The Holy Cross," and to express our great alarm at the introduction of the practice of auricular confession into the Church, and our sorrow and deep indignation at the extreme indelicacy and impropriety of the questions therein put to married and unmarried women and children.

Believing, as we do, that the adoption of a system of confession such as is set forth in the above-named book would be fraught with most fatal consequences to the Church, and would destroy all the friendly relations existing between clergy and laity, we would earnestly and respectfully urge upon your lordships publicly to express your condemnation of such a system, and to withdraw all countenance from those who favour it, and to urge upon your clergy the necessity of its disavowal and repudiation, especially with regard to all places of education."

The address is signed by ninety-six peers, including the Duke of Westminster, the Earls of Shaftesbury and Harrowby, Lord Redesdale, Lord Ebury, and Lord Dudley.

The reply of the Archbishop is to the following effect:—

Addington Park, Aug. 13, 1877.

My dear Lord,—I beg leave to acknowledge with thanks your letter of the 9th inst., which reached me two days ago, accompanied by an address to the archbishops and bishops of the Church of England, signed by ninety-six peers.

I shall not fail, at the next meeting of the bishops, to lay before my brethren this important document.

Meanwhile I have no hesitation in assuring your lordship, and those who have signed this address, that nothing shall be wanting on my part to maintain, with God's blessing, the pure scriptural character of our Reformed Church.

With regard to the particular subject of confession, to which the memorial refers, you will remember that the bishops of the Province of Canterbury have within the last few weeks deliberately reaffirmed and called attention to that formal "statement" of the doctrine of the Church of England on this subject which they put forth on July 23, 1873, and which has since been reprinted and circulated by order of the House of Lords.

I may also call your attention, in reference to present discussions, to the pastoral letter which was issued by the bishops of both provinces on March 1, 1875.

I remain, my dear lord, your faithful servant,

A. C. CANTUAR.

The Marquis of Abergavenny.

#### THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND RITUALISM.

Sixty-two male and seventy-five female lay communicants of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Hammersmith, have addressed the Bishop of London with reference to the following circumstances:—

The vicar of this church, upon the decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in "Ridsdale v. Clifton," and after consulting such male communicants known to value the existing ritual as could conveniently be called together, has decided to discontinue the use of altar lights, and of what are commonly called the "vestments," and they have been given up accordingly. In this course we are all (or most of us) prepared to uphold him as being, on the whole, the best for this parish and "the present necessity"; but we understand such disuse of ritual to which we have long been accustomed to be in no way intended as an act of obedience to a tribunal having claim to the allegiance of Churchmen, but simply as a submission "for the work's sake" to a secular court which has power by the exercise of force to carry out its decrees; we are anxious to bring the hardship of our case before your lordship.

The memorialists accordingly proceed to urge reasons against the decision of the Judicial Committee in the Ridsdale case. They conclude:—

In great sorrow of heart and anxiety for the future of the Church, we therefore implore your lordship to use your influence, first, for the repeal of the Public Worship Regulation Act, and secondly, to obtain freedom for the Church to interpret her own rubrics in her own courts, a freedom which is actually accorded to the Established Kirk of Scotland.

Many of us would regard disestablishment as a great evil, and are fully alive to the dangers incident to any violent disruption between Church and State; but if blow after blow is to be struck at the Church's liberties, if one of the advantages of Establishment—a voice in the constitution of the Final Court of Appeal—is to be denied her, and union with the State is to mean bondage, with but one way of deliverance, it cannot be surprising if Churchmen should at length decide to purchase freedom even at the expense of *prestige* and property. We are of course aware that if the Church were disestablished the State would continue to have a voice in the settlement of disputes where pecuniary rights are concerned; but the Church, we believe, would no longer be the object of special penal legislation, and the secular courts would cease to alter, under pretence of interpreting her laws.

The Bishop has returned the following reply:—

Fulham Palace.

Dear Sirs,—I must apologise for the long delay which has occurred in acknowledging your letter and the accompanying protest, which has arisen entirely from want of leisure and not from want of respect.

You will not even now expect me to enter into a discussion of all the matters referred to in your address, on almost all of which, with the exception of your determination to uphold your vicar in his wise and loyal decision, I unfortunately feel myself constrained to differ.

I, as well as your incumbent, am a minister of the Church which, having freed itself from the usurped authority of the Bishop of Rome, has ever "attributed to the Queen's Majesty" not the ministering either of



God's Word or of the Sacraments, but "the chief government of all estates of the realm, whether they be ecclesiastical or civil," and, "as well, in all spiritual or ecclesiastical things or causes as temporal." In causes ecclesiastical Her Majesty is advised in the last resort by a court legally constituted, "by and with the advice of the Lords spiritual and temporal and Commons in Parliament assembled," and composed of the most eminent judges of the realm, assisted by an archbishop and four bishops as assessors, and which is, while dealing with ecclesiastical matters, to all intents and purposes a Court Ecclesiastical. Never, probably, has a tribunal sat so strong and unimpeachable in the number, ability, and integrity of the judges and assessors assembled as that which pronounced the decision which is declared (I regret to observe) by yourselves and other lay communicants of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Hammersmith, only intelligible on the hypothesis that the judgment having been first decided on, reasons in support were laboriously elaborated afterwards.

In the face of such a verdict passed by you on the honesty and impartiality of the highest authorities of the Judicial and Episcopal Benches, it would be idle for me to say that having been obliged some years back to examine the question of the legal meaning of the "Ornaments rubric," I was led to the conclusion that no hypothesis would explain and reconcile the acknowledged facts of this very difficult case but that which is formulated in the decision which you have allowed yourselves to treat with such contempt. Nor would it avail, I suppose, to point out that a similar interpretation of the rubric, and on the same grounds, has been given by learned men, at times when no controversy existed on the subject, and when the question was examined as little more than one of legal curiosity. An instance may be found in a charge of the very able Archdeacon Sharp, delivered in 1735.

We are not accustomed, thank God, to impeach the integrity of our judges in temporal suits, even when their decisions may seriously affect our own interests; rather we pride ourselves—and with reason—on the unsullied purity of the judicial ermine. May we not, therefore, be led to suspect, when we find ourselves impeaching both their ability and their honesty in dealing with causes ecclesiastical, that our own strong feelings and prepossessions may have somewhat warped our own judgment and perhaps impaired our charity.

I can easily understand and sympathise with the dissatisfaction felt by a congregation which finds itself deprived of certain accessories to religious worship to which its members have been accustomed, and which have become associated in their minds with some of their holiest aspirations and the most sacred of the means of grace; but I am sure that all they may fear thus to lose will be more than compensated by the Divine blessing, which ever accompanies self-denying submission, for conscience' sake, to law and lawful authority; and I pray that the step which your pastor has so wisely taken, and which you have decided to follow, may lead you all on to higher degrees of faith, and love, and holiness.—I am, dear Sirs, your faithful servant,

J. LONDON.

#### THE DISESTABLISHMENT MOVEMENT.

**FRIDAY BRIDGE, NEAR MARCH.**—Mr. Lummis addressed an open-air meeting here on Thursday, Aug. 8. He was well received by a large audience, who gave him a good hearing, although the weather was unfavourable.

**WIMBLINGTON AND BANWICK, NEAR MARCH.**—These two villages—with livings cut out of the monster one of Doddington—have been visited by Mr. Lummis in two large and successful outdoor meetings. Prevented by rain on two occasions, he was implored by the villagers at Wimblington to try again, and a good meeting rewarded his exertions. But at Banwick the greatest interest was shown—the villagers standing until completely dark, in hearty appreciation of the arguments of the lecturer. It is impossible to overrate the growth of our policy in this locality, and the importance of working "with both hands earnestly" districts so ripe and ready.

**BARKSTONE, NEAR GRANTHAM.**—Mr. Lummis addressed a good outdoor meeting here on Monday last, consisting largely of agricultural labourers. Jesse Peatman presided.

**DODDINGTON, NEAR MARCH.**—This place, well-known as formerly the largest living in England, was visited by Mr. Lummis on Thursday evening. Notwithstanding the strength of the Church element, a numerous audience assembled, who heard with much respect and appreciation arguments, novel to them, in favour of disestablishment.

**EARDISLEY.**—On Monday, 13th August, Mr. Hastings lectured in the open air to a good company on "Disestablishment and Disendowment: what is meant by them?" After he had spoken an hour, several questions were asked and answered. The vicar of the parish got up an entertainment in a field near the church, where rural sports were carried on under his direction, thus preventing many from hearing what this babbler would say.

**EARDISLAND.**—Mr. G. Hastings spoke here on Tuesday, 14th instant, to an orderly and attentive meeting. He was well received, and vigorously cheered at the close.

**PEMBRIDGE.**—In this village Mr. Hastings lectured on Disestablishment and Disendowment on Wednesday, 15th August. Great attention and respect were shown except by one pot-valiant farmer, who essayed to defend the Establishment. He was, however, soon settled, and an excellent meeting was held.

**DILWYN.**—Mr. Hastings visited this village on Thursday, August 16, and spoke on the Green to a considerable gathering, who listened attentively and long to his address.

**WEORLEY.**—In the open-air, on Friday, August 17, Mr. G. Hastings lectured to a good company. All were respectful, and great attention was shown to the statements of the speaker.

The above five places were unbroken ground. The tracts of the society were eagerly taken, and earnest wishes were expressed for the accomplishment of the society's objects.

Letters patent were granted last week for St. Albans and Truro to be raised to the dignity of cities.

Mr. Thomas Hedley, barrister-at-law, of Newton, Northumberland, who died a few days ago at Newcastle, has bequeathed upwards of 200,000*l.* for the endowment of a bishopric for the county of Northumberland.

**WELSH-SPEAKING CLERGY.**—The Bishop and the Dean of Bangor have put forth an appeal for 1,500*l.* per annum to educate promising Welsh students at Bangor and Oxford (giving a course of eight years' instruction), to secure a cultured clergy speaking Welsh.

**THE VATICAN AND ITS POLICY.**—The Vatican organ, the *Voce della Verità*, declares it the "indispensable duty of French Catholics to act so as to emancipate themselves in due time from the incubus of the hybrid Republic, and proclaim the restoration of the hereditary, legitimate Monarchy." France would then conclude natural alliances with Austria and England, now going astray in egoism and Utilitarianism. Henry V. would address a friendly voice to the Czar, and the war would cease as if by enchantment. In any other case a terrible doom will come upon Europe. France will be the first victim, Austria the next, and lastly, "astute Albion"—who will be punished for the fate she would not exert herself to avert from Denmark, the German Confederation, Sicily, and Bulgaria. "The Act of the 16th of May, if it does not go to the root of the matter—if it does not contain the principle of the restoration of Legitimate Monarchy, will be unmeaning. France and Europe anxiously awaits from President MacMahon the sentence of life or death." The *Civiltà Cattolica*, the *Revue des Deux Mondes* of Popery, in a powerful article on the Ultramontane reaction, says:—"When France is consolidated, as consolidated she must be from within, her policy will impel her to crush the two uniting, the German and the Italian. This is a necessity of her existence, and to whatever fashion of Government she may adhere—Republic, Monarchy, or Empire—she must centre her diplomatic and military action in the abasement of Germany and Italy. To descend upon Italy when opportunity arrives, France will have three titles: first, political religious interest, which for her, as a Catholic nation, is the liberty of the Pope; second, the September Convention, which thirty days after its renewal was flung in her face, to complete the revolutionary raid upon Rome; third, her honour, which cannot brook a slight."

**A CURIOUS SCENE IN CHURCH.**—A few days ago a marriage was celebrated in St. Augustine's Church, Liverpool, and as a part of the preparations Mr. Stevenson, upholsterer, received orders from the bride's mother to lay down a roll of crimson baize from the door of the church along the aisle to the place where the important and interesting proceedings of the day were to take place. After the ceremony Mr. Stevenson went to pick up his crimson cloth from the aisle with the view of carrying it away. He succeeded in getting it into a roll, which he shouldered and had got the length of the door when he was suddenly pulled up by the sexton, who seized the cloth and told him to leave it in the church. The owner naturally asked the reason of this stoppage, and the answer was to the effect that the cloth having been brought into the church and used there had been made holy according to his theory, and having thus been consecrated could not again be removed without an act of sacrilege being committed. An ecclesiastical "tug of war" then began between the representative of the Church Militant and the rightful owner of the goods. Each managed to seize the baize a few yards apart, and began pulling it with might and main—the sexton to get it inside, and Mr. Stevenson to get it outside the sacred edifice. The "tug" took place just at the door of the church, and a large crowd of people soon gathered to witness the novel contest of Right v. Might. The people cheered and laughed; some cried "stame"; but meanwhile the two combatants continued to pull with all their strength, until it became evident that very soon there would be nothing but shreds and patches left to fight about. Mr. Stevenson, after employing his powers of persuasion and other means to no purpose for a long time, at length left his cloth under protest, and it was deposited in the vestry to await further steps which he will take.—*Leeds Mercury*.

**DEMOLITION OF TWO CITY CHURCHES.**—Two more of the few remaining churches built by Wren after the great fire of 1666 will, by order of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, be shortly demolished. The first, that of All Hallows, Bread-street-hill, was rebuilt by Wren in 1680 at a cost of 3,348*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*, and contains some curious monuments, particularly one in the vestry, "In memory of the Rev. Laurence Saunders, M.A., Rector of All Hallows, Bread-street, who, for sermons preached in defence of the doctrines of the Reformation of the Church of England from the corruptions of the Church of Rome, suffered martyrdom in ye third of Queen Mary, being burned at Coventry, February ye 8th, 1555." Another monument is "To the sacred memory of worthy Master Richard Stocke, who, after thirty-two years' pent in the ministry whereby God's glory was much advanced, and the true honour of a pastor's life maintained, deceased January 28, 1626." On

the 9th of December, 1608, at the sign of the Spread Eagle, in Bread-street, John Milton was born, and in this church he was baptized, the entry still being preserved in the register. The church and materials will all be sold, and the proceeds devoted to the building of a church in the metropolitan area to be sanctioned by the Bishop of London, called All Hallows, and endowed with 120*l.* per annum. St. Dionis Backchurch, Fenchurch-street, called after St. Denis, the patron saint of France, was built by Wren in 1674. It contains a monument of Thomas Rowlinson, the antiquary, the sale of whose library occupied twenty-five weeks. In the vestry are preserved four large syringes, 2ft. 3in. long, which were used to extinguish fires. The bodies will be removed by the Commissioners of Sewers to Little Ilford Cemetery, and a suitable monument will be erected over them; but where friends claim the bodies the Ecclesiastical Commissioners will allow 5*l.* for their removal. The monuments, &c., will go to the new churches.

**DEAN STANLEY ON CALVIN AND BURNS.**—On Sunday Dean Stanley, who is at present the guest of the Rev. Dr. Storey, preached in the parish church of Rosneath, from the parable of the Publican, and in the course of his sermon he said:—"It is sometimes remarked by foreigners, in speaking of this country, that the intellect and feeling of the Scottish nation are strangely divided between the sway of two great names, two well-known characters both gone to their account—the preacher Calvin and the poet Burns. God forbid that I should exalt the dissolute, reckless manners of the wayward genius above the unblemished purity of the high-minded pastor; yet still it may be that many and many a secret sin of pride, of intolerance, and untruthfulness that has sprung up under the cloak of the professedly religious man and the stern unbending divine, may be as hateful in the sight of God as the wild excess of which the other was so mournful an example. Who can doubt that there are lessons of evangelical truth to be derived from the wit and wisdom and generosity of the poor outcast which we should vainly look for from the stern predestinarian teachings of the Pope of Geneva? But it is not a question of Calvin and Burns only; it is a question for the whole race and generation of our country. You who have been in the House of God always, you who may well thank God, not proudly but in all sincerity and humility from the bottom of your hearts, that you are not as other men are, you who by the grace of God, by good friends, by happy homes, by gentle influences of all kinds, have been kept from grosser sins, remember that you may be haunted by sins of temper, sins of pride, sins of vanity, sins of untruthfulness, sins of cowardice, sins of harsh judgment, sins of frivolity, and remember that it is these very sins which your wilder, rougher companions see with a keenness inconceivable to you. It is these sins which disgust them with a pure, religious life, which else they would honour. It is by the unexpected faults of the good, by the unexpected follies of the wise, as much as by the open sins of the wicked and the flagrant follies of the fool, that the evil is kept up and the good kept down in this mixed world."

**ARCHBISHOP M'HALE AND GALWAY.**—The Dublin correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"Archbishop M'Hale has written to the honorary secretaries of a committee appointed to make arrangements for a banquet to Sir W. H. Gregory on his return to Ireland, declining the invitation, while expressing personal respect for the distinguished guest. He gives as a reason the conduct of the gentry of the county in connection with the memorable election of 1872, and says that, with few exceptions, they could scarcely hope to obtain 'the co-operation of the bishops and clergy for the purpose of doing honour to a gentleman to whom, were it not for one political blemish affecting the entire nation, honour is due, when the political design involved in the compliment cannot be hidden from less intelligent persons than the independent electors of the county Galway.' His grace makes the following appeal to the nobility and gentry of the county:—"Let the nobility and gentry of the county Galway, even at the eleventh hour, shake off the trammels of caste with which they have been so long bound up and dissociated from the people; let them raise their united voices in favour of rooting the people in the soil created for their use, reserving the just and equitable claims of their own order, which will be rightfully acknowledged; let them speak out in favour of an education in all degrees Catholic for the Catholic people of the land, allowing to the few of other denominations who dwell among us the privilege of educating their children as seems best to them. Above all, let them unite in demanding back her own domestic Parliament for Ireland, without which every other measure will prove ultimately unprofitable, and the existence of which in our capital will be productive of larger benefits for their order than for any of the other classes of society. When this combination becomes a reality, believe me that no man in Ireland will prove himself more willing to honour those in high stations than your faithful servant, JOHN, Archbishop of Tuam." The suspicion expressed by his grace that there is any political purpose in the banquet is not generally shared, and there has been nothing in the proceedings of the committee, so far as they are publicly known, to warrant it."

**BISHOP COLENSO ON THE BIBLE.**—The following reply has been made by Bishop Colenso to an address presented to him on Sunday, the 8th July, by the members of his congregation at St. Peter's Cathedral, Maritzburg:—"Gentlemen, I thank



you very much for the address which you have forwarded to me on behalf of the congregation of St. Peter's Cathedral Church, and which it has given me great pleasure to receive. I have, indeed, endeavoured to the best of my power to supply, either by the ministrations of duly appointed clergy of the Church of England, or by personal services, the needs of the congregation, deprived as they have been of all help from the great societies of the Church of England for some time past, whose funds during that period have been wholly devoted to the fostering and maintenance of the schism to which you refer, and I feel comforted and strengthened by the assurance which this address gives me, that these labours have not been altogether in vain, and that there still exists in the congregation of St. Peter's, and I am sure in other congregations within this diocese, a warm attachment to our spiritual mother, the National Church of England, which nothing has had power to sever. By means of the new translation of the Bible which you mention much will be done, no doubt, to throw light on many dark places, and clear away many difficulties, while in various ways the new lectionary—for instance, in its choice of first lessons for Septuagesima Sunday—directs the attention of Churchmen to some of the important conclusions of modern criticism, and though I may not myself live to see universally recognised the grand results of that earnest searching of the Scriptures which specially distinguishes these our times, and in which I have been privileged to take a part, yet the time is not far off, I am certain, when they will be received by intelligent and thoughtful men of all Churches, as they are now very largely within our own Church, like the conclusions of modern astronomy and geology; and many of those who have joined in this address will, I trust, enjoy to the full the fruit of these labours. Meanwhile, I reciprocate most heartily the feelings of affection of which this address is the expression, and I pray that so long as I may be spared to live and labour among you, we may be found helpers of each other for, and fellow workers in, all things that make for the glory of God and the good of man."

**THE BISHOP OF CALCUTTA AND THE BISHOP OF DURHAM.**—The Bishop of Calcutta, the Metropolitan of India, has addressed a long letter to the Bishop of Durham, in answer to one from him, expressing his entire opposition to the resolutions passed by the Indian bishops on the subject of their relation to missionaries. The bishop states that he has held a conference of the clergy and laity of the neighbourhood of Calcutta to consider the question (the laity being two to one of the clergy), and that the result was that resolutions were arrived at affirming:—(1) That in the last resort the bishop of the diocese was responsible for all teaching given; (2) that the appointment of lay agents for spiritual functions (who practically act as deacons) should be made with due regard to the ultimate right of the bishop to give or withhold his sanction; (3) that the responsibility should be shared by the clergy and laity in some sort of synod. The bishop makes a strong appeal to the Bishop of Durham "to come forth to our help, not to fan the flames of strife and uncharitableness, but as a true daysman and peacemaker. All friends of the Church Missionary Society know that nothing keeps them in harmony with the Church's organisation except a bond of mutual confidence and good understanding, a cord which even in the episcopate of such a man as Bishop Wilson was subjected to a serious strain, but which in these more anxious days is hardly enough to trust to."—The Bishop of Durham has addressed a long reply to the Bishop of Calcutta's letter. He expresses his satisfaction at the distinct denial that in the resolutions there was any intention on the part of the bishops to interfere with the missionary societies, or to claim for the bishops a dangerous increase of power. He reminds the metropolitan of India that the Church Missionary Society acknowledges distinctly its submission to the legitimate authority of the colonial episcopate, and that Bishops Cotton and Milman had approved the kind of concordat drawn up not many years ago, and criticises the somewhat Irish conduct of the present Indian bishop in deciding that "an extension of corporate work" is needed, and then consulting the clergy and laity afterwards. In conclusion his lordship asks, who originated the strife? Who fanned the flame of contention? Not, he says, the missionaries or their friends in this country, but in the first place "the present youthful occupant of the see of Colombo, who sought to crush them by an iron hand," and in the next "the Indian bishops, who, without an expression of sympathy for the down-trod missionary, without one word of defence of the just rights of the inferior clergy, have sought only to extend their own authority, and by their unhappy resolutions have indirectly given their sanction to all the arbitrary proceedings of one of their own body."

The directors of the London Financial Association have, we see, announced that they are prepared to issue debentures secured on land, bearing interest at the rate of five per cent. and upwards. In addition to the security of the land, which consists of the well-known Muswell Hill Estate, comprising 310 acres, valued when covered at over 1,000*l.* per acre, the prospectus states that an additional security consists of the uncalled capital of the London Financial Association and their assets, so that for the amount of debentures to be issued there is ample security. For other particulars, we must refer our readers to our advertising columns.

### Religious and Denominational News.

The Rev. J. P. Gledstone, late of Hornsey, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Congregational church at Streatham-hill, and will begin his ministry there the first Sunday in October.

The late Mr. Alexander Johnson, a Stirling merchant, has left over 7,000*l.* to the missions of the United Presbyterian Church, beside other large sums to various religious and benevolent institutions.

The Rev. E. Parker, Baptist minister, Farsley, has accepted the office of president and theological tutor of the Baptist College, Manchester, offered to him a short time ago, consequent upon the resignation of the Rev. Professor Dowson.

**THE METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE.**—On Sunday evening, in response to the invitation of their pastor, the congregation attending this place of worship gave up their seats in favour of strangers, and long before the service, which commenced at six o'clock, there was scarcely standing room, and many hundreds were unable to obtain entrance. The majority of those present were evidently of the working class. The vast congregation joined with heartiness in singing. The sermon was preached by Mr. C. H. Spurgeon.

**BLACKBURN.**—The Congregationalists of Blackburn are vigorously prosecuting the work of day-school instruction, some 1,300 children being provided for in three schools belonging to the congregation at Chapel-street alone. On Saturday, Aug. 11, the foundation-stone of a new schoolroom for the accommodation of a populous district of the town called Nova Scotia was laid by the Rev. J. M. Stott, M.A.; after which a very numerously-attended tea and meeting took place at Chapel-street, the Revs. A. Foster, J. Clough (Preston), J. Douglas, S. R. Antliffe, F. Wagstaff (Birmingham), and M. G. Astbury, taking part in the interesting proceedings. The building is expected to cost about 1,500*l.*, and contributions to the amount of 367*l.* were placed on the stone.

**DEARTH OF PASTORS IN THE UNITED STATES.**—A letter from New York says:—"A most discouraging fact at present is the scarcity of ministers. A large number of the most important Presbyterian churches are without pastors, and there seems no likelihood of any improvement, as in a good many of the churches there is a decrease of students for the ministry. Especially is this the case with the Reformed Church. The Board of Education of that church has now but sixty-eight upon its funds, in all stages of preparation. Fourteen of these were received during the past year. Twelve have graduated at the New Brunswick and two at the Holland Theological Seminaries. The last graduating class of Rutgers College furnished only three or four who expect to become ministers, and the prospects for the three succeeding colleges are not large. With all the inducements of beneficiary aid, collegiate advantages, increased seminary buildings, library and funds, the whole church supplies to the incoming junior class in the Theological Seminary at New Brunswick, including those who may come from Holland—where theological instruction is to be temporarily suspended—only about half-a-dozen theological students. Entire classes have not one man preparing for this work, and this from over five hundred churches and over seventy-eight thousand communicants!"

**WHITCHURCH.**—A Free Christian Church was opened last week at Whitchurch. The opening service was conducted by the Rev. Baldwin Brown, B.A., and the Rev. W. Carey Walters, minister of the church. A public meeting in the evening was held under the presidency of Mr. Herbert New, of Evesham; and was addressed also by the Revs. T. W. Mellor, of Crewe; J. Black, of Stockport; Mr. George St. Clair, of Birmingham; and by the Rev. T. Gasquoine, Independent minister, of Oswestry, who, in expressing sympathy with the church and pastor, said that he should be ashamed of himself if he could not hold out the right hand of fellowship to that congregation, but he wished it to be understood, that he was not thereby withdrawing his sympathy from any of the other churches in the town. In the course of the day a bazaar was held in the Corn Exchange, and realised over 100*l.* The church building is of iron and wood, and has been erected at a cost of 552*l.* The total cost, including fittings, has amounted to about 750*l.*, towards which nearly 630*l.* had been raised previous to the opening. Accommodation is provided for 300 people. The sermon preached by the Rev. J. B. Brown in connection with the event is described as having been very striking. It was founded on Ephesians i. 22, 23, "The Church which is His body." In the course of his discourse Mr. Brown enlarged upon the Church as the means of Christ's manifestation to and the means of His action upon the world. He had committed this heavenly ministry to them. Were there ignorant to be taught, they must teach them; were there sad ones to be cheered, they must cheer them; were there the naked to be clothed, and the hungry to be fed, they must tend them; were there wrongs to be righted, they must endeavour to right them. In conclusion, the preacher very earnestly and eloquently dwelt upon the forms of Christian activity into which the disciples of Christ must throw their strength; and especially upon the importance of making Christian brotherhood a reality amongst men. At the close of his sermon, Mr. Brown expressed his hearty sympathy with that new church and its pastor. He said that many men looked coldly upon Free Churches, and took

it for granted that their tendency must be to lead men away from the faith once delivered to the saints. For his own part he frankly confessed that he saw nothing so brilliant in the success of the various religious organisations as to justify him in looking coldly and doubtfully upon that new organisation, and he wished them heartily God-speed in their enterprise. Where the Spirit of the Lord was there was liberty, and that Spirit would guide them into all truth. The sum collected was 24*l.* 2*s.*

**THE SWEDENBORGIAN CONFERENCE** held its seventieth session last week at the New Jerusalem Church, Wretham-road, Soho-hill, Birmingham. This conference was established in 1780 by a few followers of Emanuel Swedenborg, the celebrated philosopher and seer. Since that time the New Church has spread slowly and in spite of much opposition, until at the present time there are sixty-four societies in England large enough to be represented at conference, a still larger number in America, and numerous societies thinly scattered over the whole globe. The conference was registered in 1872 under the Companies' Acts as a company existing for religious purposes, and not for gain; and this was done for the more facile administration of its trust funds, churches, schools, and other property, valued at about 50,000*l.* It is a purely deliberative assembly, directing and not controlling the churches, and the difficult question of lay representation has long ago been settled by this conference on the broadest possible basis, whereby every adult member of the New Church in England has a voice in the selection of one, two, or three delegates, according to the size of the society represented; while the ministers sit and vote in conference only on suffrance. Moreover, the lay element predominates in the proportion of three to one. The conference possesses two printing and tract societies, three missionary institutions, a junior missionary society, a number of churches and day schools, a college at Islington, distributes various funds for building and maintaining churches, schools, educating students, aiding weak societies, and assisting aged ministers and widows of deceased ministers. The Swedenborg Society of Bloomsbury-street is also indirectly associated with the conference, although all followers of Swedenborg are not New Churchmen. The form of worship used has from the first been liturgical, but there are ten separate services provided to ensure variety. The business transacted at the conference at the recent session was principally formal. There were twenty-three ministers and sixty-seven lay representatives present, who were admitted members on signing the conference roll, to which is prefixed the declaration of faith, stating simply a belief in the Lord Jesus Christ as the one true God in the inspiration of the Scriptures, and the truth of the doctrines contained in Swedenborg's works. The Rev. R. Story was elected president, the Rev. J. Prealand, vice-president, and the Rev. E. Whitehead, secretary. The Rev. W. Bruce, editor of the *Intellectual Repository* was nominated as president for the conference, to be held at Salford in 1878. The conference sermon was preached by the Rev. P. Ramage on Tuesday evening, and on Thursday evening a *soirée* and public meeting was held, at which speeches on the tenets of the New Church were delivered by some leading ministers. It was stated that the church was making good progress, and the statistics which were imperfect showed, nevertheless, a small increase in membership. Two of the principal subjects debated were religious instruction in day schools and the expediency of adopting a rite analogous to confirmation, and both were referred to special committees to report on next session.

### Correspondence.

#### DRUNKENNESS IN DURHAM.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—No part of the published records of the evidence taken before the Committee of the House of Lords is more interesting than that which gives authentic evidence as to the condition of the County Palatine. In that county there has been during the present decade a growth of drunkenness in an almost abnormal ratio, but one which in some degree was a reflection of the great material prosperity experienced in that period from the enlarged demand and production of coal, and from the influx of labour into the county. The experience of Durham is certainly one of the most curious of that which is recorded, and it may be at once stated that it is furnished by the chief of the county police, Colonel White. For upwards of twenty-five years Colonel White has been chief constable of the county of Durham, a post which gives him the police oversight over a population of about 600,000. That population includes a large number of coal and lead miners, of ironworkers, a slight sprinkling of those dependent on agriculture, and at the seaboard a mixed body dependent on shipping and import and export trades. Wages were very high—having increased enormously since 1869—the great demand for iron having forced up those of the ironworkers, having caused an intense demand for coal, with the



result of a very large increase of the wages of miners and coke-burners, and of all other classes, in sympathy with, or as a direct result of the effect of, a largely-increased demand in the labour market. As one of the results of this state of affairs, there was a very great increase of drunkenness, and of crime generally.

An Appendix to the report of the Select Committee on Intemperance presents the chief facts in a tabular form, and some of these figures are worth extraction. The period covered is from 1869 to 1876, during which time it is estimated that the population has advanced from 430,000 to 609,861. At the earlier of these two dates the number of licensed houses was 1,152, but there has been an increase until, last year, the number of licensed houses was 2,064; but somewhat singularly the convictions of keepers of these licensed houses have fallen even more in proportion, the number of convictions having been 254 in 1869, and eighty-five in 1876. Whilst the population of the county has been increased nearly fifty per cent. in the seven years, and the number of licensed houses has been nearly doubled, the criminality of the county has increased in a more alarming ratio. Taking the most serious offences, the number of persons proceeded against for acts of violence has risen from eighty-one in 1869 to 101 in 1876; and the number of indictable offences committed has been increased from 259 at the former date to 596 at the latter. Of the first-class of offences—the more serious—the chief constable states that two-thirds are “calculated to have arisen from drink.” The summary offences connected with violence—aggravated assaults on women and children, peace-officers, &c.—rose in number from 3,857 in 1869 to 5,868 in 1874, but have since slightly fallen, and of this class the table states that “one-half” may be considered a “moderate estimate of the proportion caused by drink.” This last class is included in the general total of offences summarily determined which in 1869 was in number 12,002, and last year (though slightly less than in the preceding year) had increased to 25,263 convictions—the higher number of persons proceeded against having increased in the same abnormal ratio. Coming now to the drunkenness of the county, we find that the ratio of increase has been even greater still. In 1869 there were 3,857 proceeded against for drunkenness—3,282 males and 370 females. For years there was a steady increase, and though this increase was checked in 1875, yet last year the number proceeded against was more than *threefold* what it was seven years ago. The total has risen to 11,871 in 1876; and the proportions of the charges against the sexes were not materially altered—the number being formed by 10,823 males and 1,048 females. The proportion of charges against females is far above that of many counties, but it is less than that of many of the boroughs.

This vast increase of drunkenness is not due to increased stringency on the part of the police: on the contrary, the “apprehensions are less frequent proportionately now than formerly,” and it is ascribed by the chief-constable “solely to the high wages, and also to the increase in the population.” The head of the police for the county of Durham has to confess that there has been a “larger proportion of drunken cases in Durham than in almost any other county of late years”; and he attempts to account for it by the sudden influx of “numbers of workmen of all descriptions, attracted into the county by the very high wages and by the want of workmen for the number of mines opened, and work of all descriptions.” He thinks that “the education of the people appears to offer the best solution of the problem how to diminish drunkenness”; but he believes that recent legislation, in shortening the hours of sale, and in improving the quality of the places of sale, has been productive of good; but the granting of grocers’ licences has interfered with the effect by increasing the amount of female drunkenness.

These official conclusions, however, only touch the fringe of the question of the cause of the drunkenness of Durham and of its cure. It is unquestionably true that the large increase of wages and the influx of population have contributed to that increase of drunkenness; and the probability is that the grocers’ licences have swollen it by adding to the amount of female drunkenness: but there are other causes. Notable amongst these is the condition which a large portion of the colliery district has long been in. The houses were old, small, inconvenient, and without proper sanitary provision, and too often without an efficient water supply. Crowded into this collection of huts, having an exhausting and to some extent dangerous

employment, and acquiring large wages, it is no wonder that there was an increase of drunkenness among the population, for there were few places in which the collier could spend his little leisure with what he considered pleasantness except in the gaudy painted public-houses. And in the prosperous times of a year or two ago, the possession of a beerhouse was a road to independence. Undoubtedly the amount of drunkenness in the county is being lessened by the dullness of trade, by the fall in the wages of the workmen, and by the exodus of some of the workmen brought into the county by the high wages. But that decrease is also being contributed to by the successful attempts to meet the admitted want of a better supply of water, and to remedy some of the worst of the evils attendant on the system of housing the colliers and their families. Unquestionably, one of the chief of the causes of the increased drunkenness of Durham is the growth of the number of licensed houses. It is a somewhat singular fact that this growth should be accompanied by a diminution of the number of convictions; for those who have had opportunities for inspection will scarcely believe that there has been much change in the mode in which the public-houses have been conducted. It is to this great growth of facilities for the sale of drink, coupled with the increased purchasing power, that we have to look for the reason why there is so much drunkenness in Durham; but both causes are aggravated by the conditions under which the mining population has had to live. There is now a stoppage of that influx of population, and indeed there is an efflux. The wages of the miners have very greatly fallen, but there is not an equal fall in the amount of convictions for drunkenness, nor an equal fall in the drunkenness of which that brought under magisterial ken is only a portion. And at the present time, although the magisterial break is put on the granting of additional licences, yet others can be gained without their sanction; a condition of affairs which, with the excessive number of licensed houses now existent, will prevent any great diminution of drunkenness in that county, and which must prevent the full effect being felt of the many ameliorative influences now being brought into play. The root of the question would be reached, and the source of the evil dealt with, if Parliament would prevent the issue of all additional licences for the future, and then await a consensus of opinion before dealing with existing interests.

I am, &c.,

J. W. S.

August 15, 1877.

#### THE LATE DR. DOUGLASS, OF AMOY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In the *Nonconformist* of the week before last, there was an announcement of the death of the above eminent Presbyterian missionary. A few particulars respecting him which reached me in a private letter from the Rev. James Sadler, of the London Missionary Society, will be interesting to all who knew him. Mr. Sadler’s letter is dated “Amoy, May 30, 1877.” He says—“Would that you could drop in here! ’Tis a hallowed spot. We are living, till we can get a house of our own, with Dr. Douglass, brother to the principal of the Free Church College, Glasgow, a grand missionary, who thinks nothing too good, or good enough for the Lord. On either side of the house is a “tod oh,” or big school, as it is called, for giving higher education to those who will be future schoolmasters and preachers. The students are summoned to prayers, classes, &c., by a Chinese gong, the sound as solemn, if not so far-reaching and perpetual, as the bell of a Buddhist temple. While I write, the voice of song—choicest music in praise of our Saviour, coming as it does from redeemed Chinese—is going on.” My beloved young friend little thought that within two months the honoured veteran whom he had thus so lovingly referred to, would be removed from his toilsome labours. Mr. Sadler also refers to a conference of all the Protestant missionaries in China which had just been held in Shanghai, with the view of promoting greater unity of action, utilising resources, getting a fuller acquaintance with native habits of thought and feeling, and checking the anti-Christian tendency of the press. Dr. Douglass was a member of the select committee of this conference and one of the two chairmen. It is clear, therefore, that he died literally in harness. Thus another pioneer of the Cross has fallen at his post of duty. If it were not for the seeming impertinence, I would endeavour to point the moral of such a loss. It appears to me to intensify the thrilling appeals of China to the British

churches. I know of no portion of the world where our responsibilities are heavier, and now that Dr. Richardson has so clearly demonstrated that one of our most costly articles of domestic expenditure—spirituous liquors—is not only altogether unnecessary, but even injurious, if taken only in moderation, I cannot escape the conviction that these responsibilities ought to be fearlessly faced. The speciality of our obligation in reference to China lies in the fact that one of our greatest national sins is associated with that empire. The opium scandal demands removal, and awaits atonement. Probably, at present, the Dr. and Cr. account between us stands annually somewhat thus:—Dr.: To ten thousand Chinese slain annually by Opium. Cr.: By ten Chinese saved annually by Christian missionaries. This is an awful record respecting the elect country of the world.

A. C.

#### CIVIL MARRIAGES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—There is hardly any necessity for defending Major Graham’s condemnation of any clergyman of the Established Church telling his parishioners, married according to the law of the land, that they are not properly married.

The set of public opinion is decidedly against the clericals, and hence, probably, their anger. The following returns of the numbers of marriages celebrated from the time of the passing of the Marriage Act in 1837 or 8 to the year 1855 show a steady increase in the number of marriages out of Established Churches:—

NUMBER OF MARRIAGES IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

In years ending	In Churches.	Out of Churches.	Total in England and Wales.	Proportion out of Churches.
June 30, 1838	107,901	4,280	112,181	1-26
“ 1839	114,632	6,451	121,083	1-18
“ 1840	117,018	7,811	124,829	1-17
“ 1841	114,448	8,084	122,532	1-15
In years ending				
Dec. 31, 1841	114,371	8,125	122,496	1-15
“ 1842	110,047	8,778	118,825	1-18
“ 1843	113,637	10,181	123,818	1-12
“ 1844	120,009	12,240	132,249	1-11
“ 1845	129,515	14,228	143,743	1-10
“ 1846	130,609	15,155	145,764	1-9
“ 1847	120,876	14,999	135,875	1-9
“ 1848	121,489	16,761	138,250	1-8
“ 1849	128,182	18,701	146,883	1-7
“ 1850	130,958	21,771	152,729	1-7
“ 1851	130,958	23,948	154,906	1-6
“ 1852	133,882	24,900	158,782	1-6
“ 1853	138,052	26,478	164,530	1-6
“ 1854	134,109	25,618	159,727	1-6
“ 1855	127,750	24,363	152,113	1-6

The form of the registrar’s annual return is altered after the year 1855, so that I cannot further continue the tabular form year by year. But in his thirty-sixth Annual Report he makes the following statement from abstracts of 1873:—

*Forms of marriage.*—The marriages according to the rites of the Church of England, twenty-five years ago, were 123,182, or 87 per cent. of the total marriages. In 1873 they were 154,531, or 75 per cent. This decrease, as has been pointed out in previous reports, is chiefly accounted for by the increasing number of marriages without religious ceremony at Superintendent Registrars’ Offices. The number of marriages at these offices in 1849 was 5,558, or 4 per cent. of the total marriages, whereas in 1873 it had increased to 21,178, or 10 per cent. The marriages not according to the rites of the Establishment in 1849 were 18,701, or 13 per cent.; in 1873 they had increased to 51,084, or 25 per cent.

Yours truly,

18th August, 1877.

C. T.

#### A FIREMAN’S FESTIVAL.

(From a Travelling Correspondent.)

English travellers who visited the bright and handsome little city of Stuttgart on the 11th of August, might momentarily suppose that the Stuttgards were more than usually hospitable and affectionate. For the first thing which met the eye on entering the imposing railway-station, which is one of the adornments of the city, was the inscription, “Willkommen, liebe Gäste,”—i.e., “Welcome, dear guests.” Soon, however, other unwonted signs of welcome were visible, for streamers were being run up and green wreaths displayed, and there was an air of expectancy about the many lookers-on which indicated something more than the coming of ordinary visitors. Inquiry elicited the fact that the “Fireworkers’ Festival” was to commence that day, and last four days. The term “fireworker” was somewhat enigmatical, and suggested the idea of such a competition in the pyrotechnic art as might take place at the Crystal or Alexandra Palaces. It proved, however, that the fireworker was the—at times—all-important public functionary the fireman; and this was to be a great gathering, not of the firemen of Stuttgart alone, or of Germany alone; but firemen from such



distant places as Hungary, Italy, and Switzerland were to take part in the proceedings. The celebration is held but once in five years in the chief German cities, and this was the first time that Stuttgart had acted as host. Those who have visited America know with what energy and ardour the arrangements for extinguishing fires are made and carried out, and, judging from the appearances presented at this festival, fire is an enemy which is met in the same spirit in Germany; where, I was told, most of the brigades represented on the occasion are volunteers.

A published programme—quite a little pamphlet, with a pretty emblematic title-page—set forth, with due German completeness and precision, all that was to be done throughout the festival, with the who, and the when, and the where; ending with a list of establishments where hungry firemen could dine, and, in some cases, as cheaply as at ninepence, and even sixpence, a-head. As for Stuttgart, it was *en fête* before the arrival of a single brigade; long streamers, with the Wurtemberg colours, being suspended from the houses in nearly every street; and in certain places festoons and wreaths and special decorations giving the appearance so much more readily assumed in a continental than an English city.

The afternoon of the first day was devoted to the reception of the guests, who arrived at the railway station by successive trains, several of them with their bands of music, and the station was for many hours alive with men in varied costumes, receiving the requisite tickets of admission, making multiform inquiries, and being supplied with the requisite directions. There were also numerous other travellers, coming in to see the expected sights, while the boys of Stuttgart, with yellow paper helmets on their heads, mustered in great force, and were proud to carry a fireman's bag, and still more his helmet, as he made his way to his appointed quarters. In the evening there was a concert in the town-garden, which was illuminated for the occasion. This was limited to firemen exclusively; but the general public assembled in large numbers outside, to see the firemen come and go, as well as listen to the music.

The next day was the great day of the festival, and it will surprise no one acquainted with the continent to learn that it was Sunday. The shops were closed, and everybody seemed to be in the streets, for the enjoyment of a holiday; while the provincials poured in from surrounding places in crowds, and added to the variety of costumes which were to be seen throughout the city. These brown and tawny looking peasants, with their rough queer clothes and antique ways, looked as though they had walked out of the picture books with which we had become familiar in our young days in England.

Directly after breakfast there was a hurrying to and fro of firemen making their way to the several places of rendezvous, from which they were to fall in to the procession. The formation and starting of this procession was a feat which required much time for its accomplishment; but the sight of the masses of helmeted men filling the avenues and streets, with the sounds of music and the general animation which prevailed, combined with the bright sunshine of a perfect summer morning, prevented anything like tediousness. Presently the firing of guns, kept up with great pertinacity, indicated that the great procession had commenced its march, headed by a few horse-soldiers, on weedy-looking steeds. I say great, because it was great in several respects. It contained, I was told, some six thousand firemen; it occupied I cannot tell what length of streets; and it was quite an hour in passing a single point. The men marched, some four, others five abreast. The German brigades came first, then the Hungarian, Swiss, and others from a distance; the Wurtembergers coming last, and this procession closing with the great display made by the Stuttgart fire-engines, fire-escapes, and all sorts of appliances for extinguishing fires and preserving life. Each section was headed by its band—if it had one, as many had—and by its officers, some of them smart and military-looking men, others spectacled, elderly, and slightly slouching, as though they had just left the counter or the professor's chair. The men were of all sorts and sizes, as those of our volunteer regiments usually are, and they marched somewhat loosely, and with a jovial, rather than a military air; but, as may be supposed, they had a far more military look than any body of English firemen would have. In fact, while many of our firemen have been sailors, most, if not all, those of Germany must, of necessity, have been subjected

to the soldiers' drill. What most struck a close observer was the muscular strength, the intelligence, and the thoroughness which characterised the appearance of most of the men. These men could, no doubt, put out fires and save lives, but they could evidently do a great deal more; and their looks alone indicated the existence of that strength, both physical and moral, the full force of which was felt by France in the greatest war of recent years.

The costumes of the men were very varied, some being smartly, and others usefully rather than smartly attired. All wore helmets, and, as most of them were of brass, and some of them were plumed, the appearance which the procession presented, wherever it could be seen for a good length, was very striking, especially in the strong sunlight. When, finally, the procession halted in the old market-place it looked like a sea of glittering brass. The day before had been market-day, and the same space had been filled with such a display of fruit, flowers, and vegetables as one seldom sees; to-day the contrast which it presented was as great as could be imagined.

The behaviour of the people was admirable, there being no crowding or pushing, so that women and children, perched on chairs and benches, could see with ease, and without danger. When the procession on Lord Mayor's Day in London has passed, it is always followed by what has been wittily called a regiment of Her Majesty's black-guards, who bonnet decent men and rob them of their watches and handkerchiefs. Here it was as easy to move about at the tail of the procession as anywhere else.

In the afternoon, an address of welcome was presented to the firemen, in one of the public halls, by Dr. Von Hach, the burgomaster or mayor of the city, and in the evening there was a banquet to the officers, as I suppose, for the men were swarming about the streets in large numbers. The festival appeared, in fact, to have reached its culminating point, and in the evening numbers left the city, and the railway-station was a scene of continued uproar of a mild kind. I was curious to see how the day's proceedings would end; for I knew how they would have ended in the case of many in England. Well, the beerhouses were certainly very full in the evening, and did not present an agreeable sight. There could also be occasionally seen in the streets a fireman or a rural in a decidedly beery state; but, on the whole, the good order and sobriety of the people were very striking, and you could go about anywhere without fear of consequences.

The next day the serious business of the festival commenced, in the shape of a series of experiments, to test the capabilities of the several fire-engines. These lasted for two days, and were carried on in the most systematic manner. Three tests were applied in each case—volume, distance, height. For the first, the water was directed into a sort of drum suspended in the air, the water falling through a hose into a measuring tub below. To test the height to which water could be raised, the hose was strapped to a measuring rod going up to the very top of the tall tower of the picturesque Stiffe Church. Of course, there was a crowd of on-lookers all day long; the windows, the housetops, and the church tower being filled with evidently intensely interested spectators. Whenever an engine particularly distinguished itself, there was a burst of applause, and the snorting and thumping of the steam fire-engines, with sparks and flames at times rushing from the chimneys, occasioned great excitement. But the greatest fun was when the distance test was applied; for as nobody knew exactly to what quarter the hose would be directed, and the distance to which the water was thrown was sometimes surprisingly great, the sudden scattering of the crowd had a ludicrous effect—at any rate for those who were content to view the sport at a safe distance.

One other item in the programme has yet to be mentioned, and that was an exhibition of all the apparatus belonging to the fireman's art. Of course, it was as complete as German intelligence and industry could make it, and it was surprising to see how extensive the collection was. There were engines of all sorts—from the imposing-looking steam-engine down to small affairs that a servant-girl could work in a country house. I saw one from America; but I think none from England. There were fire-escapes and other contrivances for safety; buckets and hose of the most varied descriptions; lamps, fire-gongs, and electrical apparatus; musical instruments for the bands, with pattern uniforms, helmets, and ornaments. There was a model of a house on fire, with firemen

and escape-men engaged in their several avocations; and, finally, there were photographic views of buildings and of machinery which no amount of cleverness could bring into an exhibition at Stuttgart. It was a very creditable, and also a very suggestive display. Indeed, the conception and the proceedings of the festival, so far as I had the means of judging, were of a gratifying character. I had got sick of the mummeries of priests in cathedrals and churches. The sight of the ever-present soldier and of the great barracks in almost every German town I had visited, had become almost painful, and it was not possible to travel through even now peaceful fields without recalling the terrible scenes of bloodshed which some of them had witnessed but seven years ago. Here, however, were German energy, acumen, and organisation employed, not to destroy, but to preserve, life and property. Heroism and patriotism were combined in a wholly good and harmless cause, and I could not but wish that in this and other channels of an equally innocuous kind, there might flow that power and intelligence which now sustain the vast military organisation, which is at once the boast and the bane of the great German Empire.

#### THE LATE CHRISTOPHER NEVILLE.

In our number of last week there was announced the death of a clergyman of the Established Church for whom most of our readers will have entertained an unusual esteem. A Churchman of Churchmen for nearly the whole of his life, the late Christopher Neville was, in his long career, a very exemplary clergyman, but not altogether of the ordinary type. Having seen something of him during some years after he resigned his livings, we should say that he was, very peculiarly, a man open to the reception of every new truth that was presented to him, but not a man who would originate the idea of a new truth. His intellectual constitution was open and frank; his moral constitution almost perfect; and he had that moral courage which always accompanies intellectual frankness. Mr. Neville was always, apparently, a man in advance of his rank. He was one of those men to whom Lord Macaulay's magnificent simile applies—a mountain man, who saw the truth as the sun arises, but only when the sun arose. Let whatever was true be presented before his frank and courageous intellect, and it was at once acknowledged to be true. Had he not been educated as a clergyman, and therefore shut out, for so many years, from the actual knowledge of truth beyond his own sphere, he would long ago, we believe, have been a Radical reformer. As it was, he had in him, all through his life, the root of Radicalism. As early as 1838 we find him writing with sympathy on the new Poor-law, which, at that time, had to be defended against a worse Poor-law; in 1839 he undertook a review of Dr. Newman's lectures on Romanism, written with a peculiarly direct and somewhat prophetic purpose. His wide sympathies engaged him in every national question. Hence, in 1842, he wrote a letter on the new tariff, addressed, we believe, to Sir Robert Peel; while, in 1846, his Radicalism was sufficiently shown by his pamphlet "Corn and Currency," in which he showed much learning. Then we find him in 1848 discussing tenant rights, in favour of the tenants, although he himself was a landlord.

From this time Mr. Neville seems to have paid especial attention to ecclesiastical questions. Long before the discussions of the bicentenary year of 1862, he had, in 1856, written a vigorous pamphlet in favour of the repeal of the Act of Uniformity. This was, we think, his first ecclesiastical advance. Then came the discussion on the revision of the Liturgy, which he first treated in a letter to the Archbishop of York in 1860, followed by another letter to Lord Ebury, in the next year, on the present state of the Church. Looking through these, as well as subsequent pamphlets of Mr. Neville, written about this time, we are struck with a characteristic which does not often pertain to pamphlet literature. They are, in his own style, vigorous and pointed assertions of truth that always will be truth. As far as he saw he wrote, and wrote vigorously. It was impossible for him to have done otherwise. In 1862 he appeared upon the platform of the Liberation Society, at the Conference of that year. He was very heartily—more than heartily—received, but then, as he frankly said, he had not, and could not, become a Liberationist. That stage of thought, as well as of action, soon, however came. There



are four publications within our knowledge which represent his stages of decision in regard to the relations of the State to the Church. In 1862 he was a Church reformer; in 1864 he was a Liberationist. The interval is marked by a "Letter to Mr. Gladstone" in 1862, which passed through two editions; his letter to the *Stamford Mercury* on the "Established Church and the Liberation Society," which passed through nine editions; his letter to Mr. Samuel Morley on "Religion and Politics"; and another letter to the late Mr. Charles Robertson on "Political Nonconformity." In the last of these Mr. Neville wrote that he could trace the principles of the Liberation Society in publications which he wrote before that society was formed, and added that he owed his ultimate convictions to the pages of the *Nonconformist*.

Our friend, as will have been already seen, was a man of sensitive conscience and broad sympathies. Those sympathies were, in fact, broader than we have indicated. His letters to the *Times*, a few years ago, on small cottages showed his anxiety to do his duty as a landlord, and, above all, we have as witness the resignation in 1862 of his two livings of Wickenby and Thorney, worth not less than 800*l.* a year—after which resignation he retired into the position of a country gentleman.

Those who knew Mr. Neville personally, could appreciate his fine personal feelings, his width of sympathy, his vigour of thought and expression. Whatever he thought he said, and sometimes with no little emphasis, and often with no few words. He was a man who, all through life, was, as we latterly found him, himself; and, being a good man, it was best that he should be so, with all his virtues and all his peculiarities.

#### THE WAR.

##### NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE BALKANS.

After the great uncertainties of the past few days, says the *Daily News* of Monday, positive information contained in the instructive telegram which our special correspondent lately at Plevna sends from Studeni, now the headquarters both of the Army and the Emperor of Russia, is especially welcome. Most of the intelligence of the last ten days, if exaggerated or doubtful rumours are entitled to be so designated, has come from the Turkish side. Our correspondent found the Emperor in excellent health and spirits, and states that the reports circulated of his illness and despondency were as baseless as the story of his flight across the Danube to Fratesti. Reinforcements, consisting of admirable troops, were arriving, being reviewed by the Emperor, and sent on to their various stations. The one thing thought of at Studeni is the next attack on Plevna, to be made when the whole of the Imperial Guard has arrived, a fortnight or three weeks hence. The terrible fate which, if we may believe all that is telegraphed from Turkish sources, hangs over the Russian Army in the descent of Suleiman Pasha from the Balkans and his union with either Mehemet Ali or Osman Pasha, has not impressed the Russian staff so much as it has some of our own public instructors. General Radetski, commanding the 8th Army Corps, is guarding Tirnova and its approaches, and confidence appears to be placed in his ability to hold his position, at least until reinforcements arrive, should they be wanted. No such movements as those ascribed to Suleiman Pasha in the Turkish telegrams of the last few days could be made without the knowledge of the Russians, who, notwithstanding, devote their chief attention to Osman Pasha and his army. It is well known that the Russians are not forcing on hostilities just now. They would rather wait until the whole of the Imperial Guard has arrived before advancing from their present positions. There are, however, our correspondent remarks, indications that Osman Pasha will himself take the offensive. He is being made very uncomfortable at Plevna, and the Russian forepost work, assigned to the four rifle battalions which our correspondent saw arrive at Studeni, promises to become severe before the time appointed for serious operations. The Russian position before Plevna is strongly entrenched and armed with artillery. The Turks at Plevna are making cavalry reconnaissances in various directions. They find their convoys of provisions and ammunition captured in their rear. An independent Russian cavalry expedition, consisting of the 4th Division, has been sent to cut off the communications of Osman Pasha's army with Sophia by the easiest and most important route. Of course such an expedition has its risks, but three thousand cavalry with two batteries of horse artillery ought to be able to take care of themselves; and in the event of a defeat of Osman Pasha and the retreat of his army, they would do much to contribute to the decisiveness of the event. Our correspondent reports that the weather is again favourable for operations, and that the recent rains have not

materially affected the health of the troops. He makes the important statement that the Russian staff calculate that not fewer than 180,000 men are now actually on their way from Russia to reinforce the army in Bulgaria. Some of these are passing through Roumania, others have still many hundred miles to travel. The arrival of the Imperial and Grenadier Guards, however, will be the signal for the resumption of offensive operations. The Turkish movements immediately north of the Balkan passes probably have less importance than has been attached to them. When we have to record day after day that some portion or other of Suleiman Pasha's army is taking positions from the enemy south of the Balkans—a sign that the Russians have not been so completely expelled from Roumelia as has been reported; when we read in Turkish telegrams that only on Friday last Djemil Pasha started on an expedition to relieve the Musulmans besieged at Hamidler; and when, further, we are told, in an official despatch from Suleiman Pasha himself, that as lately as Thursday he sent out an expedition to reconnoitre, and that within four hours' march of Hainkoi 2,000 Russians were found in an entrenched position too strong to be forced, it is difficult not to believe that some of the accounts of the Turkish advance with which the public has lately been favoured were not so much history as sanguine anticipations of a desired success. General Gourko, who has gone to Bucharest to meet the division of the Guards of which he is the commander, has stated there that in his judgment the Russian positions from the Danube to the Shipka Pass are so strong that the Turks will not venture to attack them. Of course, in this he may be mistaken; but he is an officer distinguished for his services, and his opinion is deserving of notice. On the eastern side of the European theatre of war the Turks are showing some activity, and General Zimmermann's corps is about to be attacked in the Dobrudscha. Our correspondent at Studeni states that he will be reinforced, as if important work was likely to be assigned to him.

A Russian Agency telegram, dated Bucharest, says that the Russians are in the occupation of Kustendje. Another, dated Tirnova, states that their army have strong positions on the whole line to Shipka, that it is intended to reduce Plevna without having recourse to fighting, and that Osman Pasha's army is beginning to lack provisions.

Another Bucharest telegram states that the Russian army before Plevna amounts to 80,000, and that Osman Pasha's communications with Sophia have been cut off.

The *Times* of Monday says:—"The latest news from the seat of war in Europe announces, from a trustworthy source, that an important engagement has been fought at Kezanlik, in which the Russians have been defeated. Kezanlik lies within the spurs of the Balkans, on the road that leads from Adrianople, by Eski Saghra, to Tirnova, and a defeat of the Russians at this point warrants the belief that the Shipka Pass over the mountains must, unless unexpected incidents occur, speedily fall into Turkish possession. Should this be the case, the Russian troops south of the Danube, between the Vid and the Lom, will be shut into a triangle, menaced on the west by Osman Pasha at Plevna, on the east by Mehemet Ali near Shumla, and by Suleiman Pasha, whose force must have supplied the soldiery that fought at Kezanlik, on the south. In this position, unless they quickly receive reinforcements which may enable them speedily to resume the offensive, they must suffer much from difficulty of supplies, and lose considerable numbers from the sickness which has already made havoc in their muster-rolls. Nor can the arrival of the much-needed reinforcements be expected at an early date. The corps of the guards has been called up from St. Petersburg, and the young guard is moving from Warsaw, but these can hardly be concentrated on the Danube before the latter part of September. The troops of General Zimmermann began to move from the Dobrudscha with the object of crossing the Danube at Braila, passing by rail through Bucharest, and again recrossing the river at Sistova or Pyrgos in order to strengthen the armies of the Grand Duke Nicholas and the Czarowitch; but before this movement could be carried out it has perforce been suspended. Hardly had a strong division passed through Bucharest before the Turks, acting with unwonted vigour—as is said, at the instigation of Hobart Pasha—landed a force on the sea coast, and, by threatening the positions which the Russians had fortified at Tchernavoda and Kustendje, detained the bulk of Zimmermann's force in the unhealthy plains that lie to the south of the Lower Danube. The Russian right wing has, indeed, been prolonged towards the west by the passage of the whole Roumanian army across the river in the vicinity of Nikopol, which is now garrisoned by one portion of the troops of Prince Charles, while the remainder have been sent to reinforce the Russian force in front of Plevna. If, as our telegrams state, an attempt is to be made to reduce this place without fighting, possibly the Roumanian detachment from Nikopol may be employed to endeavour to turn the Turkish works by a flanking movement up the valley of the Vid. Here Osman Pasha must have still between 35,000 and 40,000 men, and has over against him the remains of the 9th Russian Corps, lately commanded by General Krudener, which can hardly muster more than 15,000 men. Here are also the relics of the 32nd Division of the 11th Corps, mustering probably 9,000 men, and those of the 4th Corps, which may be estimated at 20,000 men.

To these 44,000 men have been added about 20,000 Roumanians. The numerical superiority of the invaders is, therefore, in this direction great, though it can hardly muster the 80,000 men at which to-day's telegrams estimate it. It is more than compensated for by the strong field works which the Turkish soldiers have thrown up, and from which Osman, with a truly Fabian strategy, appears determined not to be tempted, notwithstanding the reports that his army is beginning to lack provisions and that his communications with Sophia have been cut off. The Russian left wing, under the command of the Czarowitch, whose headquarters are reported to be at Biela, consists of the 12th and 13th Corps, and musters probably about 70,000 men. It occupies positions along the Jantra, with its outposts beyond that river, and shows a front on the north against the troops of Ahmet Eyoub Pasha, which are based on Rustchuk, and further southwards against those of Mehemet Ali, which rest on Shumla. The centre of the Russian army in Bulgaria is under the immediate command of the Grand Duke Nicholas, whose headquarters appear now to be at Gurno. It is probably intended to be ready to support either wing in the event of its being subjected to a hostile attack. This force consists of one division of the 11th Corps, one division of the 8th Corps, and the whole of the 5th Corps. Unless sickness has been very rife, it may be calculated at 70,000 men.

##### THE WAR IN ARMENIA.

While the Russians in Europe appear to be resting on their arms, their comrades in Asia seem to have the prospect of not being allowed to do so. A sudden vigour seems to have been imparted to the Turkish councils. A court-martial has been ordered to assemble for the trial of Hussein Subri Pasha, the late commander of Ardahan, and of Faik Pasha, commander of the Van division. The Turkish cavalry has evidently been reconnoitring with a view to some offensive movement on the part of the Ottoman army. The intelligence received by telegram that an invasion of Russian territory is intended may be accordingly regarded as veracious. The centre of the Russian army, lying in three camps at Golevran, Kuruckdara, and the ruins of Ani, about thirty miles east of Kara, has received a reinforcement of about 15,000 men. It now consists of sixty-eight battalions, sixteen batteries, and more than 8,000 horses. Yet its strength does not seem to overawe the Turkish leader, who has attacked with his irregular cavalry the outposts in front of Ani. That the Russians are uneasy in this direction seems probable from the intelligence that we publish of a report that General Loris Melikoff has been superseded by General Mixak. It augurs badly for the success of an army when its generals are superseded in the field. Further south Ismail Pasha was some days ago reported to be within a short distance of Bayazid, and in this direction also the Turkish horsemen appear to have fallen upon the enemy's outposts in front of Igdir. Such information tends to strengthen the belief that the Ottoman troops in Asia are about to make some forward movement, and we may within a few days look for intelligence of stirring incidents on the frontier of Armenia.

##### MR. GLADSTONE ON THE WAR.

Mr. Gladstone having been asked by a correspondent to let his voice be heard on the atrocities charged to the Russians, as he had formerly done with respect to those alleged against the Turks, the right hon. gentleman replied, under date August 10, as follows:—"Sir,—I feel that your letter is conceived in the spirit of justice as well as of humanity. We have in these cases to ascertain, first, that the events have really occurred; and, secondly, who were the doers. The people of this country remained quiet last year about the Bulgarian atrocities until both were ascertained. This is not, so far as I know, the case at present. The shameless, wholesale lying of the Turkish Government deprives its allegations of all claim to value. There is, however, I think, evidence enough of many cruel and horrible deeds. I myself should be most thankful to anyone who would give me the means of judging whether they were due to Russians or to Bulgarians."

On Saturday the members of the Salford and Over Darwen Liberal Associations, to the number of between three and four thousand, visited Hawarden. At four o'clock the excursionists assembled in front of the castle in expectation of hearing Mr. Gladstone, and on the right hon. gentleman making his appearance, accompanied by Mrs. Gladstone, he was greeted with enthusiastic cheers. Replying to a vote of thanks for throwing open his park to the excursionists, Mr. Gladstone spoke of the autumn agitation of last year as an expression of the calm and sober judgment of the people of this country upon the Eastern Question, and dwelt emphatically on the necessity of keeping a vigilant watch over the Government lest they should yet betray the country into war on behalf of the most abominable Government in Europe. The danger was that right-minded members of the Cabinet might be led astray by those who were not so right-minded. He hoped we might have a quiet autumn, but should occasion require, the agitation of last year would be renewed in order to prevent our being dragged into war. His one word of advice to them was "vigilance."

##### MIDHAT PASHA ON THE SITUATION.

A writer on the *Paris Temps* has had an interview with Midhat Pasha, who told him that he intended staying in Paris for a fortnight. The ex-Grand Vizier said he anticipated that the war



would be brought to a close by diplomatic intervention, perhaps towards the end of the autumn or in the course of the winter. He dwelt upon the excellent positions and arrangements of the Turkish armies, whose tactics ought to lean towards the defensive, in order to prolong the war. Midhat Pasha further expressed a hope that Europe, which suffered from the war, would not long tolerate a state of things which all, including the belligerents, were interested in bringing to a close.

In a letter to the *Débat*, Midhat Pasha repeats his disclaimer of any official or confidential mission from the Sultan. In expressing his ideas on the war—supported by his country with so much patriotism—on the great European interests at stake, on the means of terminating the conflict, and on the rôle appertaining to European diplomacy, he needs, he says, no mission, for the pain of expatriation at this supreme moment for his country's fate would be too cruel if he did not plead its cause amid the many sympathisers he finds around him. His sentiments may accord with those of the Government, but they are especially the expression of the public opinion formed and developed in Turkey by late events. The Turks now ask only to practise internal liberty, to establish political equality, to reform substantially their administration. If victorious, as they already are, and deserve to be, seeing their bravery, patriotism, and the justice of their cause, they will use victory only "to conclude an honourable peace, and to inaugurate a new era, under the auspices of a Sovereign, who, after giving his people liberty, now gives them glory. To a war of extermination and conquest they will reply by a defensive war à outrance; and the only peace they reject is a false peace which would strengthen Russia's political and strategic position towards Turkey, and open to her, in a future more or less near, the road to Constantinople." Midhat Pasha, it is said, will pass the autumn in Scotland.

#### RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

A Blue Book of 156 pages, and containing 180 despatches relating to Turkish affairs, has been issued. The despatches extend over a period ranging from May 14 to June 30, and refer to a variety of topics. One of the longest documents is a despatch from Mr. Layard to the Earl of Derby bearing date May 30. After referring to the fact that the first engagements of the war had resulted less favourably to the Russian arms than had been anticipated, Mr. Layard remarks that Turkey might, in her despair, have recourse to measures to injure and embarrass Russia. Mr. Layard continues:—

If Russia's real object is, as she asserts, the improvement of the Christian populations, she has surely now the means of obtaining a satisfactory guarantee for it. The Turkish Government, it must be admitted, has already done a good deal in the direction pointed out by the Powers at the conferences and in the Protocol of London. It is prepared to do more, and would do more if the war waged against Turkey by Russia permitted it. The lesson which the Porte has received has, no doubt, made it see the absolute necessity of complying with the demands of Europe, without even the material guarantee which Russia may require. It must not, however, be inferred that the Porte will be so easily induced to make peace even were it in extreme peril. There are some Turkish statesmen who see the dangers which threaten their country, and who would feel the absolute necessity of bringing the war to an end almost at any sacrifice. While Russia might desire to exact much, no Turkish Ministers could accept very hard or humiliating conditions without risking their own lives and even that of the Sultan, and without exposing the Christian populations to a massacre. I may be excused for pointing out the dangers to England of a prolongation of the war, and of a complete subjugation of a large part of the empire by Russia. Should Russia desire to annex at this time any of the European provinces of Turkey, European interests would probably be called into play, and she would be prevented from carrying out her intentions. The influence, however, which she would inevitably establish over these populations would be almost tantamount to absolute possession, and would enable her to annex them, sooner or later, when she could do so with impunity; but as regards the acquisition by her of territory in Asia Minor the case is different. The interests of England would then be alone concerned. It would probably signify little to the rest of Europe whether Russia retained Armenia or not. But England has to consider the effect of the annexation to Russia of this important province upon the British possessions in India. Russia would then command the whole of Asia Minor and the great valley of the Euphrates and Tigris, which would inevitably fall into her hands in the course of time. Persia, moreover, would be placed entirely at her mercy. The suspicion that Russia has already made secret offers to Persia to assist her in acquiring the province of Bagdad in exchange for Ghilan and Mazanderan may be unfounded; but the fact that it exists, and has been entertained by persons not generally ill-informed, proves that this consideration is one not to be altogether lost sight of. In most cases when the evident interests of two parties are concerned in effecting an exchange, the exchange is sooner or later effected. The desire of Persia to possess the province of Bagdad and the holy shrines of their prophets and martyrs is of very ancient date, and is shared by the whole Persian nation. On the other hand, the possession of the entire coast of the Caspian Sea and the direct road through a rich and well-inhabited country to Herat and Afghanistan, and ultimately to India, is a matter of vast political importance to Russia. Such being the case, there is every reason to believe that when Persia finds that the Turkish Empire is threatened with dismemberment her own interests will get the better of any sympathy for its founded upon community of faith, and that, completely under the control of Russia, she will not be indisposed to agree to an arrangement which would be acceptable to the religious feelings and to the ambition of the Persian people.

The possession by Persia of the province of Bagdad would be, as far as England is concerned, its possession by Russia. It must not be forgotten that the possession of Armenia by Russia as regards any designs that she may have upon India, supposing her to entertain them, would be very different from that of any part of Turkestan or Central Asia. In Armenia and the north of Persia, she would have a hardy and abundant population, affording her excellent materials for a large army, ready at any time to advance upon our Indian frontier, and resting upon a convenient and sure base of operations, in direct communication, by the Caspian Sea, and by Batoum, with the heart of the Russian Empire. The moral effect of the conquest of Armenia and the annexation of Ghilan and Mazanderan by Russia upon our Mahomedan subjects and upon the populations of Central Asia cannot be overlooked by a statesman who attaches any value to the retention of India as part of the British Empire.

The following despatch from Lord A. Loftus to the Earl of Derby, dated May 31, is also given in the Blue Book:—

My Lord,—I called to-day at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to take leave of Prince Gortschakoff previous to his departure with the Emperor to the headquarters of the southern army. His highness informed me that Count Schouvaloff would return immediately to London, and was the bearer of the reply of the Imperial Government to the note which your lordship had addressed to him on the 6th instant. Prince Gortschakoff observed that he could not allow his answer to be made known until it had been communicated to your lordship. Consequently his highness said that he could not impart to me even confidentially the nature or substance of his reply, but that he had instructed M. de Giers, in his absence, to communicate it to me as soon as he had information of its having been communicated to your lordship. At the same time his highness expressed his conviction that the interests of the two countries in the East ought not to clash ("se heurter"), and his hope and expectation that the note of which Count Schouvaloff was the bearer would be satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government. I inquired of his highness in what light the Imperial Government regarded the declaration of independence by Roumania. Prince Gortschakoff replied that he regarded it as a "fait accompli," *de facto*, but not *de jure*. It was a question which could only be treated later, in conjunction with the European Powers. His highness believed that the Austrian Cabinet took a similar view of it. In regard to Servia, Prince Gortschakoff stated that Prince Milan and the Servian Government had expressed their readiness in the present conjuncture to act according to the ("volonté") wish of the Emperor, and that it had been signified to them in very decided terms that the Emperor's wish was that Servia should remain perfectly passive. Prince Gortschakoff was unable to say what would be the probable duration of the Emperor's absence, but I am told that in the official and court circles it is expected that his absence will not exceed six weeks.—I have, &c., AUGUSTUS LOFTUS.

#### ATROCITIES.

The details of the vengeance taken for outrages by the Bulgarians as the Turkish troops reoccupy the Christian villages vacated by the Russians in their retreat are too horrible to reproduce, and the massacres are committed on so frightful a scale that the special correspondent of the *Daily News* telegraphs—"It really seems that if these things continue many days longer, not a Christian will be left alive on the slopes of the Southern Balkans." The *Times*' correspondent, in a letter which appeared on Friday says that the massacres of last year, horrible as they were, become a mere trifle in comparison. In the church of Geula-Mahalissé, a town of 4,000 inhabitants, the *Standard* and the *Times* correspondents simultaneously report the atrocious massacres with every refinement of cruelty and lust of the helpless inhabitants of the town, who had fled into its sacred precincts for protection, and the British military *attachés* with the Turkish army who were eye-witnesses of what they describe, say that the scene in the church is something indescribably awful. The dead and the dying were piled in suffocating heaps, little children crawling about looking for their mothers, wounded mothers trying to move those ghastly heaps to find their children, and when found hardly able to recognise them with the fearful sword cuts about their little heads." From this church Colonel Lennox and Lieutenant Chermide, R.E., military *attachés*, and Messrs. Leslie and Meyrick, of the Aid to the Sick and Wounded Society, brought out and buried 175 bodies of women and children. Besides these there were many others killed in different places about the village, thirty-six wounded had their wounds dressed by the above-named medical officer, but a large proportion of these helpless creatures died from their wounds or were subsequently killed. Before this pitiless massacre the Circassians carried off "an immense number" of young girls whose fate the correspondent says can only be "guessed at." In concluding his letter on "the horrors of war in Roumelia," the *Times*' correspondent observes:—

In the meanwhile this is not a Bulgarian question alone. It becomes a most serious consideration how Europe is to get rid of the ruffians whom Turkey has armed, and whose sole idea is that the Christian is an "institution" for him to earn a livelihood by robbing, and to glut his passion by violating and murdering. It is useless to blink the fact that Turkey is utterly powerless to deal with them herself, and yet of all her great crimes there are few greater than the employment of these hordes of undisciplined fanatics. Besides, the time cannot be far off when the desolation of the country and the starvation of the few scattered remnants of the population will afford no field for their operations, and they must fall back on the more civilised cities, such as Adrianople, Constantinople, Salonica, and so forth. With the Circassians, again, the cause for anxiety is still greater. The Turks stand in awe of these men, and the reason is not intelligible, for on nearly every occasion of a fight they have run away. The massacre of Yenî Sagra was chiefly done by them.

The massacre of Geula-Mahalissé was exclusively Circassian, except the few cases since, when Bashi-Bazouks have visited the town. The Circassians have no quarrel with the Bulgarians, and no kind of excuse is discoverable for them. There is no retaliation in the matter, no long-standing feud fostered by foreign intrigue. They come from another continent, are armed and let loose by Turkey, and their deeds are written in letters of blood wherever a Christian, or even a Jew, is to be found.

The same correspondent, in a letter written from Karabunar on the 5th inst., says that he trusts for the sake of what little humanity there is still left in the world, that such an awful scene of misery and unmerited suffering as that place presented all the previous day, all through the night, and up to the time of his writing, is not often to be met with. The great caravans of fugitives from Eski Saghra, and the neighbouring towns and villages, have arrived, some in country wagons, many thousands of them having toiled over the burning plains on foot, all eager to find some place of shelter, some haven of safety from carnage. The correspondent continues:—

From an early hour yesterday these caravans of fugitives began to arrive from Eski Saghra under escort, the first arriving in bullock-carts. Towards evening the foot passengers arrived, under escort, and a more painful, weary crowd of suffering women and little children cannot be imagined. It is a mystery to me how they ever succeeded in reaching Karabunar from Eski Saghra, a distance of twenty-eight or thirty miles, and it is impossible to estimate how many fell by this way. Many of the poor women who made this pilgrimage have been shot through the thigh, and I was very much struck with the frequency of the wounds in that part. Others had their heads gashed and skulls laid bare; and yet they staggered on, carrying their infants at the breast, and in one case I saw a wounded woman with a larger child tied firmly to her back. Arrived at Karabunar, the wounded, by the sole efforts of the British Aid Society, were carried off to the ambulance tent, where Drs. Leslie and Meyrick worked most indefatigably all day and night dressing their wounds. These wounds are many of them of a most frightful description, the same person having, perhaps, three or four in different parts of the body. One little girl, three years old, had four bayonet thrusts in her legs, and one in the lower part of her body. She must have been pitched into the air and caught on the points. The evidences of the worst brutality were frequent. A strikingly handsome Jewess, of about sixteen, had gone completely insane from the horror of her indignities and the scene of slaughter around her. She could scarcely stand, and babbled, munched bread, and lapped at water in a most painful manner. Those who arrived first were soon sent off in densely-crowded trains, without time to get any water. Indeed, all along the greatest misery they have suffered is from thirst, as it is impossible for the half-dozen Europeans and their servants who happen to be on the spot to attend to 7,000 to 8,000 women and children. Their cries for water and their parched lips told too plainly what they were enduring, and many of them were down on the ground utterly prostrate. At a little distance from the main body I found several children almost dead lying gasping in the burning sun. One, a mere skeleton of about one year old, had his eyes already glazed and his lips half parted, his tiny hands clinched, and his weak breath coming in jerks. But we picked up the poor naked mortal, and ran down the line of carriages, already crowded with women, and found, after a hundred refusals, one kind woman who took the little creature to her breast. But it was too late; and before I left, about an hour after, I saw this poor little waif lying on the embankment dead. How many more are meeting the same fate it is impossible to say. In the midst of all, the Turkish medical officers strolled leisurely about doing nothing, until we could stand it no longer, and went and requested the Pasha to send them to help the English doctors. This he promptly did. I learnt from the Pasha that the Bulgarian "émigrants," as he calls them, are to be distributed about Constantinople, Adrianople, and Philippopolis. But there is no kind of arrangement to receive them, and as they are all absolutely destitute of everything except the clothes they stand in, and many of these saturated with blood, it is easy to see that their wretchedness will by no means cease when turned loose out of the trains at their various destinations. It seems a most urgent case for immediate assistance from England, but the form which it should assume is not so evident. I can but offer my own suggestion, which I telegraphed on Sunday—namely, the establishment of a city of refuge, where the wounded women and children of the Bulgarians might be gathered together and attended to. Thousands of these people are now entirely homeless, and the affairs of last year become a mere trifle in comparison. The crops are all neglected and left rotting in the ground, and there is no kind of provision for the winter. If the war ceases these people cannot return without money, without clothes, without implements, to the ashes of their ruined houses, to pass the winter in cold and starvation. If the war continues, of course it is only more impossible.

The same writer examined a woman who professed to have been wounded by Cossacks. She described the Cossacks as wearing caps like cooking-pots. So they do in pictures, but it happens to be the fact that, in reality, during this campaign they are wearing flat forage caps, which are not the least like cooking-pots.

The naval correspondent also sends the following telegram from Yenî Saghra under date August 16:—"The day before yesterday I went with the Imperial army to Hain Boghaz. Yesterday, at Laneli, about two hours and a half from the pass, I saw 120 persons who had been murdered in a savage manner by Cossacks and Bulgarians. Among the victims were two women, one of whom, very beautiful and young, had been killed and thrown naked into a pool of water, while the other lay on the ground. I saw with my own eyes families, including children, who had been thrown into a well. The houses of these people and the handsome



embroidered dresses of the women showed they had been rich. In one house women and young girls had been shut up and subjected during ten days to outrages by Cossacks and Bulgarians. According to information given to me by an old woman belonging to this neighbourhood, the house was afterwards set on fire and fifteen women were burnt to death. The Bulgarians, when they heard of the arrival of the Turkish army at Hain Boghaz, carried off the Turkish women and children, from three to thirty years of age, and fled to the Balkans. The victims of whom I spoke above were all collected together and murdered in succession. Many more were butchered in the same way, but I have not had time to go and see them."

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The Russians officially acknowledge the loss of 14,459 men in killed and wounded up to the 9th. The complete loss at Plevna is not yet ascertained.

General Gourko's detachment, during the whole campaign from the 14th July to the 1st August, lost 191 killed, including ten officers, and 733 wounded, twenty-seven of whom were officers. Fifty-seven men are missing. The Bulgarian legion lost twenty-two officers and 600 men.

Thirty Bulgarians who have been found guilty of taking part with the Russians in acts of rape and pillage at Eski Zaghra, says the Adrianople correspondent of the *Standard*, have been sentenced to death and executed.

All the attempts of Prince Nikita to get possession of Nicksica, states the Pesth correspondent, remain without result. He has been obliged to raise the siege, in order to march against the Turkish troops who are endeavouring to enter Montenegro by way of Duga Pass, where they are concentrating.

Two ironclads built for the Turkish Government—one by the Thames Ironworks Company, and the other at Messrs. Samuda's yard—are now complete and ready to receive their guns, but are detained in the Thames under existing international law pending the present war. A third ship, in the hands of the Messrs. Samuda, for the service of the Ottoman Porte, is in a forward state of preparation, but will, of course, have to await the issue of events.

A *Daily News* telegram from Syra states that Mr. Soudamore's resignation of the position of Director of the International Post Office at Constantinople was caused by the dismissal of an assistant named Matheof under the Imperial decree ordering all Bulgarians to be dismissed. Matheof has a British nationality for his seven years' service in the British Post Office, and when the order was given Mr. Soudamore asked for its reconsideration, calling attention to the British nationality of Matheof, but Izet Bey, the Director-General, replied that the English registration made no difference; Matheof was a Bulgarian, and must go. Mr. Soudamore asked permission to appeal to the highest authority, but this was refused, and the next day Mr. Soudamore resigned.

The Turkish army in the province of Bagdad, numbering 35,000 men, has been summoned to Constantinople, and will return to the capital by the Valley of the Euphrates. It will be replaced in the Bagdad district by the militia.

It is expected that the Porte will observe defensive tactics towards Servia should the Principality declare war against Turkey.

Prince Bismarck, with his family, will arrive at Gastein on the 23rd inst., and will stay a few weeks in that little town to take the waters. The journey of the German Chancellor to Gastein will occur precisely at the time when the Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs will be at Ischl. People have, therefore, lost no time in inferring from this fact and the proximity of Ischl to Gastein, of the possibility of an interview of the two Ministers.

According to a telegram in the *Cologne Gazette*, from Pera, Ali Pasha, Governor of Adrianople, has arrived at Constantinople with a petition to the Sultan, signed by 30,000 Bulgarians, among whom figure the Archbishop and the Bishops of Adrianople, who implore the clemency of the Sultan, confessing that they have been guilty, and that they allowed themselves to be seduced by Russian emissaries, and promising to remain in future faithful to the Sublime Porte.

A deputation of members of the National Aid Society, introduced by Sir H. M. Havelock, waited upon the council of the society on Thursday, at their offices, in Craven-street, Strand, to present a memorial on the subject of an equal distribution of relief to the sick and wounded on both sides in the present war. The memorial proposed, on the precedent established by the aid given last year to Servia, that relief having been sent to the Turks, an equal amount of aid should be despatched for distribution among the sick and wounded of the Russian and Montenegrin armies. The chairman, Colonel Lloyd-Lindsay, said that a formal reply would be made to the deputation, and stated that it had been decided, on the motion of Lord Shaftesbury and Sir Harry Verney, to offer relief to the Montenegrins, and that an officer would be at once despatched to Montenegro for the purpose of obtaining information.

The Turks are very active strengthening Gallipoli. A hundred Krupps have been sent there from Constantinople. The Ministers have declared to the foreign diplomats that they would not make an exception in favour of any Power as regards the passage of the Dardanelles.

The Queen's Speech is generally considered by the foreign Press as being of a highly pacific character. The *Nord*, the semi-official Russian organ in Western Europe, expresses itself thoroughly satisfied, and, speaking about the negotiations which will eventually have to take place, the writer of the article says that, as far as the desideratum of a peace compatible with the honour of the two belligerents is concerned, there will be no difficulty, providing these terms are taken in their historical and usual acceptation.

The German Government have sold to Greece 2,000,000 Chassepot cartridges taken in the war of 1870.

The German Government has sent to that of Turkey a serious remonstrance against the inhuman conduct of its soldiers, on the ground of the Geneva Convention, which it regards as binding belligerents not only to each other but also to neutral Powers, and that any signatory of the Convention has a right to recall the Government of Turkey to its duties.

The Russian Government is making great efforts to induce the Great Powers to join in a collective protest against the atrocities perpetrated by the Mussulman population and soldiery in Turkey.

Down to Saturday last 12,000 Circassians had arrived at Trebisonde, and were being provided for by the Turkish Government. From Soukhum Kale the continued embarkation of fugitives is reported. Large ships are sent every five days to bring off the people, and even at that rate it will take weeks to transport those that have already come in. It is stated that there are 1,000,000 Circassians who wish to emigrate to Turkey. Hobart Pasha has gone to Sinope.

A telegram from Athens states that the Ministry has sent out orders to fortify the chief ports with all speed, so as to have them finished by the end of October at the latest. Similar orders have been given respecting the war vessels. The expenses are estimated at six millions of drachmas. Still, nobody in Athens believes in the immediate outbreak of war.

A telegram from Pesth states that a great sensation has been produced there by an appeal addressed by M. Kossuth to the Hungarian nation, whom he excites by enthusiastic words to take up arms with the Turks against the common enemy, Russia. He exhorts Count Andrássy to distrust the promises of the Czar, who, when victorious, will destroy Austro-Hungary as he will have destroyed Turkey. Kossuth calls upon the Premier to save the Imperial dynasty and his country by making an immediate alliance with Turkey against Russia before it is too late, for if Turkey is overcome Hungary will inevitably fall.

A TRUE HEROINE.—The *Times* correspondent at Adrianople writes:—"A small hospital has been organised, and is being most ably conducted by a lady whom England may be proud of, as she is the only person of her position in Adrianople who has had the courage to remain in the town. Her name is Mrs. Camara, and her father was English. Alone and unaided she immediately, on hearing of these dreadful massacres, took a large house and opened it, trusting a good deal to Providence, for fugitive Turkish women wounded or not wounded. When I visited her establishment yesterday I found no less than eighty-six women and children, well fed, well housed, clean, and orderly, out of whom twenty-six were wounded, one or two mortally, I believe. I found this admirable lady, in most workman-like costume, down on her knees holding a little child who was kicking and screaming while the doctor was dressing a large sword-cut wound in his back. All round were the wounded, many not yet attended to, but all to be dealt with in good time, while in the shady garden little girls and boys were playing and laughing as if there was no such thing as misery in the world, and already quite forgetting what they had so lately passed through. Mrs. Camara receives rations from the Government for each of her *protégées*, but nothing else, and is so far entirely dependent on her own resources, which I may be allowed to add are not unlimited. If any charitably-disposed persons wish to help a countrywoman in a most courageous attempt to do practical good, they may forward remittances to her credit with the Imperial Ottoman Bank of Adrianople, with which bank her husband is connected. In the suburb of Ilderim the Greek Patriarch has offered shelter to a large number of refugees, who are, I believe, all Bulgarians. As to the total number of fugitives in Adrianople alone there is some little difficulty in obtaining proper information, as a great many are known not to be drawing Government rations. To-day there were in Adrianople and the suburbs 13,500 supplied with rations, of whom it is estimated about 11,000 are Bulgarians. On the roads leading from the scene of the exodus, the Sandjaks of Philippopolis and Eski Saghra, there are 3,000 arabas, or country bullock carts, on their way down, and allowing the lowest average—namely, four to a cart—it will bring the number of fugitives in this town alone to 25,500. I give these figures as I have received them to-day at the Konak, or Governor-General's Palace, indeed from the Pasha himself."

The workpeople at Dean Clough, Halifax, have presented an illuminated address and a book containing 3,400 signatures, to Mr. John Crossley, late member for the borough, on his retirement from the firm of John Crossley and Sons (Limited). Mr. Crossley sent a suitable reply in writing, expressing his gratification at receiving such a mark of esteem.

## FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

We learn by telegram from Rome that General Grant intends to pay a visit to Garibaldi in Caprera next month.

One of the oldest and most devoted friends of the Napoleonic dynasty, Dr. Conneau, has just died at La Porta, Corsica. He was a confidential friend of the late Emperor, and was entrusted with the direction of the Prince Imperial's education.

ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.—The centennial celebration of the battle of Bennington (Vermont) in that city was attended by about 50,000 people. At the banquet which was held in the evening, the healths of President Hayes and Queen Victoria were proposed and received with enthusiastic cheers. A letter was read from the Earl of Dufferin, Governor-General of Canada, to the President, regretting his inability to attend the celebration. Mr. Evarts made a speech, in which he paid a high tribute of admiration and respect to the character of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

NEW AMERICA PARTY.—The Philadelphia correspondent of the *Times* states that efforts are being made in various parts of the country to form a Working Men's Political Party, independent of either regular party. The working men last week carried Louisville by a large majority. Meetings preparatory to the formation of the party were held in Cincinnati, Columbus, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York. The movement attracts attention, the belief being that the party, under the impetus given by the recent railway troubles, will be formidable. The meetings which have been held have declared for working men's direct representation in Congress, State, and municipal legislatures, the repeal of all oppressive laws against labour, and the enactment of laws protecting labour.

AN IMPERIAL EDICT AGAINST OPIUM SMOKING.—The promoters of the Anti-Opium Society will (the *China Mail* says) be glad to learn that the Emperor of China has issued an edict prohibiting opium smoking throughout the country, particularly among officials, scholars, and the soldiery. The edict was issued at the instance of H. E. Kwoh Sung Tao and his colleague, Envoys to Great Britain. It commands generals, governors-general, and governors in the various provinces to draw up regulations, adapted to local circumstances, for carrying out this prohibition, which is to take effect three years hence; meantime the smokers are, we suppose, expected to give up the bad habit. What practical effect this measure may have remains to be seen.

EGYPT AND THE SLAVE-TRADE.—A telegram from Alexandria states that the new slave convention recently concluded between Great Britain and Egypt entirely prohibits the export or import of negro slaves into Egypt, as well as the mutilation of children, and all traffic in them. Egyptian slave-traders will be tried by court-martial, as assassins, and foreigners dealing in slaves will be handed over to the tribunals of the country to which they belong. English cruisers will be authorised to capture slave ships sailing under the Egyptian flag, and Egyptian cruisers may act in a similar manner towards slavers hoisting the British flag within Egyptian waters. The Khedive further engages to abolish all private traffic in slaves within seven years from the present time, as far as regards Egypt proper, and within twelve years in the Soudan and frontier provinces.

PRESENTS TO THE POPE BY PILGRIMS.—The *Tablettes d'un Spectateur* states that the total of the sums of money presented to the Pope by pilgrims during the jubilee amounted to 16,476,381*l.* Of these, 9,190,000*l.* were in gold; the remainder in paper money. By the wish of the Pope the money will be distributed as follows:—Four millions of francs will be added to the funds of the holy chair; four millions will be given to the fund for the *employés, ex-employés, &c.*, and their families, who have remained faithful to the Pope; four millions will be appropriated to the restoration of ecclesiastical monuments, and for the execution of works of utility, which at the same time encourage art and industry; and, finally, the remaining 4,476,381*l.* will be distributed among charitable institutions, such as hospitals, asylums, &c.

THE SAMOAN ISLANDS.—The *New Zealand Herald* says:—"A short time ago we gave the particulars connected with the visit of several Samoan chiefs to Fiji, whither they had gone to endeavour to persuade Governor Sir Arthur Gordon to take possession of Samoa for Great Britain. Apparently the Samoan chiefs had not got any encouragement, for on their return home the American Consul, Mr. Griffin, commenced negotiations to have the American flag hoisted. All the preliminaries were completed on the night of the 23rd of May, a number of documents having been signed, and on the morning of the 24th the American flag was hoisted at the King's house, at Point Molinu, on the west side of Apia Harbour. A salute of twenty-one guns was fired from the other side of the harbour. The American clipper bark Menahokoff was lying at Apia at the time and an American man-of-war is expected shortly. A great feast was given at the King's house, and all the white inhabitants were invited to go. Thakombau's son, from Fiji, and the English Consul, Mr. Liardet, went to where the feast was being held, and said they would join them if they would haul down the American flag while they were there. The natives, however, declined to haul down the flag, even temporarily, and Prince Timothy and the English Consul left. Mr. Griffin, the American Consul, has



recently visited Washington, but it was not stated that he had been commissioned to accept the cession of the islands.

#### THE FRENCH CRISIS.

On Thursday Marshal MacMahon set out upon his tour through Normandy, accompanied by the Duc de Broglie. At Evreux he was very plainly told by the Adjoint, who, in the absence of the dismissed Republican mayor, headed the municipal deputation, that the Normans were "profoundly attached to the Republican Government," and that their "warm sympathies" were to be won by the Marshal's efforts for the "maintenance and consolidation" of the Republic. The Marshal's answer was that the "Constitution"—not the Republic, be it observed—was safe in his charge, and that he desired as much as anybody "the cessation of the present crisis." "It will cease," he added, "no doubt, when the wisdom of the country shall by the choice of fresh representatives have restored the accord momentarily disturbed between the public powers." The President of the Council of the Arrondissement endeavoured to soften the blow struck by the Adjoint, expressing a confident hope that "town and country, deaf to the deceptive promises of radical charlatanism, would respond to the Marshal's appeal and deposit in the urn the patriotic bulletins of the Constitutional Conservative." But the effect of this glowing apostrophe was undone by the President of the Chamber of Commerce, who stoutly declared that "interests have need of stability, and that stability can be given to the country only by a complete government—that is, an executive power resting on an elected Parliament." This speaker provoked the Marshal to a brisk interchange of epigrams. "Good politics," he said, "make good business." "Yes," replied the Marshal, "and business will make enduring progress, when the Government, instead of having to defend itself against incessant attacks, will be able to devote its efforts to the true interests of the country." After these unpleasant passages of arms all the Conservative eloquence, adroitly mingled with Protectionist demands, of the President of the Consultative Chamber of Louviers and the Rouen Appellate Court, as well as M. Pouyer-Quertier himself were needed to restore the Marshal's complacency.

Marshal MacMahon received the local authorities of Caen on Friday, and, replying to an address from the President of the Court of Appeal, expressed his conviction that the members of the court would do all in their power to assist him in defending what was not a political cause, for he did not seek the triumph of any particular party, but that which was the foundation of the principles of society, which at the present moment were in serious jeopardy. In reply to the President of the Chamber of Commerce, the Marshal said the country was at present engaged in examining all matters relating to commercial treaties, and it was doing so with the utmost zeal and impartiality. On Saturday the Marshal was at St. Lo and Cherbourg. At the last named place the streets through which he passed were decorated with flags, and the town was illuminated at night. This morning the Marshal-President received the authorities, and afterwards attended Divine service. On leaving the church he was greeted with acclamations. The Marshal subsequently held a review of the troops, and was very cordially received.

The reporters of the Republican journals who are following Marshal de MacMahon on his tour have given up sending telegrams, because the Government always stop them. Their letters testify that everywhere "Vive la République!" which, strange to say, the De Broglie-Fourtou Ministry deems a seditious cry, overwhelms that of "Vive le Maréchal!" At Lisieux the Marshal's ears were assailed by many shouts of "Vive Thiers!"

M. Gambetta has been entertained at Lille by Dr. Testelin, a Life Senator, who invited 163 persons to meet him at a banquet. Dr. Testelin proposed the health of "the 363," on the solid platform of the Republic, and especially of M. Gambetta, "the eminent orator and patriot, who had so powerfully contributed to unite in one phalanx all the friends of the country and liberty." No report of M. Gambetta's reply has been published. He praised the skill of the late Chamber in avoiding the snares set for it, and said that its real offence was that it was laying a firm foundation for the Republican edifice and winning the heart of the nation. He applauded the calmness of the country under the provocations of personal power, and extolled the army as imbued with the feeling of honour and respect for the law. Referring to the coming elections, he expressed his belief that his former estimate of the return of 400 Republicans would be exceeded, said that the elections would free the country from Clericalism and Bonapartism, and repelled the assertion that the Marshal need not bow to the solemnly-pronounced will of the nation. "When France has announced her sovereign will," he said, "there must either be submission or resignation."

The Versailles Tribunal has decided that it has no jurisdiction in the action for defamation brought by M. Menier against the Minister of the Interior for the aspersions cast on the 363 deputies by the *Bulletin des Communes*.

A telegram from Dieppe announces that M. Thiers has paid a visit to Pays, and that he was most cordially received by the inhabitants and the visitors. Bouquets were presented to him, for

which he warmly expressed his thanks. He has now returned to Paris.

#### THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

The proceedings of the forty-seventh meeting of the British Association were opened at Plymouth on Wednesday. The attendance at the opening meeting was not so large as in former years, though the number of visitors to the town is unusually great. The Mayor of Plymouth presided, and introduced the president, Professor Allen Thomson, M.D., F.R.S. After congratulating the members on coming again to "that beautiful and interesting locality," after the long interval of six-and-thirty years, the learned president announced as the subject of his discourse the "Development of the Forms of Animal Life," with which, he observed, his own studies had been largely occupied, and which had important bearings on the questions now agitating the scientific world. Having noticed the enormous change produced in scientific thought by the doctrine of natural selection brought forward simultaneously by Wallace and Darwin in 1858, the professor said—"If it were warrantable to attribute so great a change of opinion as that to which I have adverted as occurring in my own time to the influence of any single intellect, it must be admitted that it is justly due to the vast range and accuracy of his knowledge of scientific facts, the quick appreciation of their mutual interdependence, and, above all, the unexampled clearness and candour in the statement of Charles Darwin. But while we readily acknowledge the large share which Darwin has had in guiding scientific thought into the newer tracks of biological doctrine, we shall also be disposed to allow that the slow and difficult process of emancipation from the thralldom of dogmatic opinion in regard to a system of creation, and the adoption of large and independent views more consistent with observation, reason, philosophy, and religion, has only been possible under the effect of the general progress of scientific knowledge and the acquisition of sounder methods of applying its principles to the explanation of natural phenomena." With regard to the origin of life, the president adopted the view that "it had been experimentally demonstrated that no development of organisms, even of the most simple kind, has been satisfactorily observed to occur in circumstances which entirely excluded the possibility of their being descended from germs, or equivalent formative particles, belonging to pre-existing bodies of a similar kind. The reflection forces itself upon us that we are just as ignorant of the mode of first origin of all the compounds of the inorganic elements as we are of that of living matter; and we may therefore be excused if we suspend all theory and conjecture until we shall be guided to more reliable hypotheses through the plain track of observation and experiment." The remainder of the president's address was occupied with an examination of the fundamental principles of embryology, tracing the gradual development of plants and animals from the germ or ovum. It was shown that the mode of this development is the same, varied only by increasing complexity of structure and subdivision of parts as we advance from lower to higher organisms. The results to which the examination of the subject led the professor, were thus summed up in the conclusion of the address:—"The formative or organising property resides in the living substance of every organised cell and in each of its component molecules, and is a necessary part of the physical and chemical constitution of the organising elements in the conditions of life; and it scarcely needs to be said that these conditions may be as varied as the countless numbers of the molecules which compose the smallest particles of their substance. But, setting aside all speculations of a merely pangenetic kind, it appears to me that no one could have engaged in the study of embryological development for any time without becoming convinced that the phenomena which have been ascertained as to the first origin and formation of textures and organs in any individual animal are of so uniform a character as to indicate forcibly a law of connection and continuity between them; nor will his study of the phenomena of development in different animals have gone so far before he is equally strongly convinced of the similarity of plan in the development of the larger groups, and to some extent of the whole. I consider it impossible, therefore, for any one to be a faithful student of embryology, in the present state of science, without at the same time becoming an evolutionist. There may still be many difficulties, some inconsistencies, and much to learn, and there may remain beyond much which we shall never know; but I cannot conceive any doctrine professing to bring the phenomena of embryonic development within a general law which is not, like the theory of Darwin, consistent with their fundamental identity, their endless variability, their subjugation to varying external influences and conditions, and with the possibility of the transmission of the vital conditions and properties, with all their variations, from individual to individual, and in a long lapse of ages, from race to race. I regard it, therefore, as no exaggerated representation of the present state of our knowledge to say that the development of the individual in the higher animals repeats in its more general character, and in many of its specific phenomena, the development of the race. If we admit the progressive nature of the changes of development, their similarity in different groups, and their common characters in all animals—nay, even in some respects

in both plants and animals, we can scarcely refuse to recognise the possibility of continuous derivation in the history of their origin; and however far we may be, by reason of the imperfection of our knowledge, from realising the precise nature of the chain of connection by which the actual descent has taken place, still there can be little doubt remaining in the minds of any unprejudiced students of embryology that it is only by the employment of such an hypothesis as that of evolution that further investigation in these several departments will be promoted, so as to bring us to a fuller comprehension of the most general law which regulates the adaptation of structure to function in the universe."

The Association on Thursday got into full working order. The whole of the morning was occupied in the reading of the Presidents' addresses to the various sections, delivered at considerable distances from each other. Most of the sections were well attended, the most popular being, perhaps, Mr. Pengilly's address to the Geological Section. Professor Corey Foster, in the Mathematical Section, made a defence of mechanics and mathematical science, claiming for these branches that they were directly to be credited with many of the discoveries and advances made of late years, and for the direction which investigation in nearly all branches was taking. Professor Houghton, in the same section, presented an address upon geological periods, and claimed to have established, by a new method, that the length of the day is increasing. In the Chemical Section Professor Abel gave the address. In the Economic Science Section the question of population occupied chief attention. Lord Fortescue devoted the greater part of the opening address to it. He denounced the proposals of Mr. Bradlaugh as immoral, and believed that population increased the national strength instead of weakening it. Mr. Bourne argued in the same way.

On Friday the most interesting section was the mathematical and physical, the source of attraction being the "Telephone," a paper on which, by Mr. Preece, immediately followed one by Sir W. Thomson, "On the possibility of life in a meteoric stone." Mr. Preece described the progress made in the adoption of electricity to the transmission of sound, from 1837, when Page, an American physicist, discovered that an electric magnet could be made to emit sounds, to the production in 1861 by a German, named Reiss, of the tone telegraph. Reiss's telegraph simply transmitted tones, a lady's voice and a deep bass being both rendered alike. Bell, of Boston, commenced to work in 1873. Mr. Bell had devoted nearly the whole of his life to the examination of the vocal organs, and step by step he produced his articulating telephone, a specimen of which Mr. Preece produced and experimented with. The wire was connected with the post-office, and some amusing conversations were carried on between Sir William Thomson, Professor Houghton, Professor Adams, and others at the section end of the wire, and Mr. Preece's assistant at the other. At the request of Professor Adams and a lady who was asked to try the instrument, the assistant sang "Auld Lang Syne" and "Rule Britannia." Only the person who had his or her ear to the bell of the telephone could hear the tone transmitted, but their evidence was that the thing was a complete success. Other experiments were made, including one with the tone telephone, which is intended to emit musical sounds audible to a room full of people. The instrument used had gone astray on its journey from America, and had only come to hand an hour before; consequently it was not in perfect condition, and, as Mr. Preece intimated might be the case, it had caught a cold, and could only be heard by those close to it, and that faintly. Sir William Thomson read a letter from his assistant at Glasgow, announcing the arrival there of Professor Bell, who, it appears, had made experiments in Glasgow, and has succeeded in speaking through what would correspond to a 100 miles of Atlantic cable, and through a length of ordinary wire equivalent to 3000 miles. Sir William quite agreed with his correspondent that the telephone was the most wonderful invention of the age.

Anthropology was very popular. The address of Professor Galton dealt with the singularly interesting question of the study of those groups of men who were sufficiently similar in their mental characters or in their physiognomy, or in both, to admit of classification. Of the subsequent papers we may mention one by Mr. Sorby on the colouring matter of human hair, which he found to depend on the varying quantities of the black pigment of a red brown substance that oxidised yellow, and of a pink red substance found in small quantities in very red hair. Incidentally the President remarked that so partial were the ladies of this country to a certain shade of brown that in London it went by the name of "Devonshire brown."

Sir James Watson read a paper in the Economic Section on the sanitary condition of large towns, and instanced the good that had been done in Glasgow by municipal sanitary improvements. In the course of the discussion Lord Fortescue, the president, condemned large drains, and referred to the "tunnel" under the Houses of Parliament, six feet high and two feet wide. Drains of this sort he regarded as simply retorts for the distillation of desactive gases. Mr. Barry (son of Sir Charles Barry) defended his father from the remarks of the noble president, and reminded his lordship that the "tunnels" to which he referred were constructed under the express authorities of that day, and were so made as to enable a proper inspection of the minor pipes draining into them. The usefulness of this practice was still admitted.



Saturday was given up to excursions to an extent unexampled in the history of the association. Some of the excursionists went to the China Clay Works at Lee Moor in the southern environs of Dartmoor. The Mayor and Corporation of Exeter had invited a large number of members to visit that city, but only a small number proceeded thither. A luncheon at the Royal Public Rooms was attended by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Bishop of Exeter. The mayor presided, and Mr. H. S. Ellis, as secretary of the local committee, took the vice-chair. After lunch the toast of "The Bishop and the Clergy" was replied to by the Bishop of Exeter. He had particular pleasure in speaking on behalf of the clergy on such an occasion. It was an excellent thing that clergymen should welcome men of science, and all the more because now there were some differences of opinion between them on very serious points. There was, therefore, all the more reason that the clergy and the men of science should see as much of each other as they possibly could. There was only this difference between the clergy and men of science—the one studied the revelations of God's word, the other the revelations of God in His works. (Cheers.) Might not, therefore, those who studied God's works derive very great advantages from those who studied God's word, and vice versa? They had very much to learn the one from the other. He felt no fear whatever about the progress of science. He knew that it would not in the least degree shake the foundations of religion. Sir Stafford Northcote proposed the health of the President and Members of the British Association, and alluded to the renowned hospitality of the city of Exeter. He went on to observe that while the British Association did a great deal of good to the districts they visited, he could not help thinking that they also took a little good from the places they saw; that while they had much to teach, they also had something to learn. (Cheers.) The last time he met the Mayor of Exeter was at a meeting of the Commissioners of 1851, when his worship was one of a deputation who came up to urge that the commissioners should devote some portion of their funds to the spreading of museums and the promotion of scientific information throughout the provincial towns. That representation received great attention, and he (Sir Stafford) hoped it would lead to beneficial results. (Cheers.) Mr. Spottiswoode, the Association's President-elect, acknowledged the toast; and Miss Buckland responded for the ladies.

#### THE HARVEST.

Farmers are now busy cutting wheat about Stradbroke, Suffolk. The crop will be barely an average one. Barley is backward, but in many places promises better than it did early in the season. Harvest has become general about Spalding; the corn crops, which presented a promising appearance a month since, seem now to have suffered from the long continuance of dull weather. The standing crops have, however, generally ripened bright and healthy, and, notwithstanding rumours to the contrary, the yield will prove satisfactory, if favourable weather now continues. Harvest is now general in the neighbourhood of Raunds, Northamptonshire. Harvest has commenced about Ramsey, Huntingdonshire, on the high land and in the fens; the crops in the fens are about an average, but on the heavy clay lands they are deficient. Harvest operations have commenced about Alford, Lincolnshire.

The *Agricultural Gazette* of Monday publishes a large number of reports from correspondents in all parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland, from which the reader can gather a trustworthy impression regarding the current harvest. The *Agricultural Gazette* says:—"It is plain from these that 1877 will prove no exception to the succession of unfortunate harvests which we have of late years experienced. The wheat crop is certainly very generally and very largely below an average. Oats and winter beans seem the best grain crops of the year. On the other hand, it has been, and is, a great year for the grazier and dairy farmer. All kinds of cattle food are, and have been, and promise to be, unusually abundant. Potatoes, which have also been so promising, are now very generally threatened with disease. The hay crop has been abundant, and in all the early districts it has been well secured."

Mr. Mechi writes from Tiptree Hall, Kelvedon, Essex:—"In my last I expressed an opinion that the wheat kernels appeared plump and the ears well filled. This has been since verified, for a field we thrashed out on Thursday has yielded about five quarters per acre of very bold, well-developed wheat, remarkably free from tail or waste. In this respect it is a pleasing and striking contrast to the deficient kernels and excessive tail of last year. I have reason to believe that this will be the case with all my wheat crop. I hope it may be so generally. Although the crops are not equal in bulk of straw to those of abundant years, the increased size of kernels will help to fill the bushel. Heavy thunder showers have greatly improved the root and green crops and pastures. The wheat crops being much laid and twisted, the reaping machine can only work one way. A farmer writes to me on Friday from Rathfarnham, Dublin:—"From a letter of yours in the *Times* it appears that you can get your corn crops cut, carted, and stacked for 12s. 6d. per acre (as I understand), supplying reaping machine, horses, and carts, but no men. Twelve shillings and sixpence the statute acre is equal to

20s. the Irish acre, and my experience and that of others whom I knew is that we would consider ourselves fortunate to get the work done for, say, 2l. 10s. the Irish acre, equivalent to 31s. 6d. the statute acre. Our harvest wages are 3s. 6d. for men and 3s. for women. As our men here average 5s. 6d. per day piece work at the 12s. 6d. per acre, our Irish friends must be wrong somewhere, especially if they pay by the day and not by the piece. We do not employ women in the harvest, but some boys assist."

There is some reaping of oats in the midland Irish counties, and the hay crop has certainly been a splendid one. The harvest prospects are decidedly good, but in some districts the potatoes have begun to give way, and a bad field is occasionally seen.

#### MR. GLADSTONE AND THE LIBERAL PARTY.

Mr. Gladstone addressed from the terrace of his garden at Hawarden Castle on Monday afternoon a party of more than 2,000 Lancashire excursionists, 1,500 of whom came from Bacup, Rawtenstall, Newchurch, Hacksteads, and the neighbourhood, under the auspices of the Rassendale Union of Liberal Associations, and the remainder from the West Derby (Liverpool) Liberal Associations. The excursionists, having gone over the grounds, met at half-past three in front of the garden terrace, and precisely at that hour Mr. Gladstone, accompanied by his wife and other members of his family, came out, amid immense cheering. When this had subsided a vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone for their kindness, by the Rev. R. D. Holt, of West Derby, and seconded by the Rev. Mr. Nicholls, of Bacup.

Mr. Gladstone, in acknowledging the vote, said,—"Ladies and Gentlemen, I am very thankful to be allowed to address you in circumstances which, if they be not most brilliant as respects the skies overhead, yet at any rate are better than some of us had been inclined to anticipate about nine o'clock this morning. (Laughter.) I saw a few gentlemen who may be said to have belonged to your vanguard in Hawarden at the time, and we exchanged signs of recognition as we passed; but I really had not the heart to say a word to them in the midst of the tremendous downpour from which they were suffering. (Laughter.) However, ladies and gentlemen, when things are at the worst they will mend. (Hear, hear.) We have had an illustration of that to-day in the weather, and rely upon it that will be the case also in other matters. (Hear, hear.) It will be the case with regard to the commerce and industry of this country. (Hear.) I do not say that in the present state our public affairs are at the worst, because I think they might be a great deal worse than they are; but still they are capable of being mended—(laughter)—and I am quite persuaded that after a reasonable time they will be amended. (Hear, hear.) There was only one word in the speech—I might say, perhaps, in both speeches, we have heard from our friends to-day,—in these speeches there was only one word with which I was inclined to disagree, and that was something or other that was said about coming to the front. ("Hear, hear," and loud cries of "Yes.") You must allow me liberty of opinion, and I am sure it is the very last thing which, as Englishmen or as Liberals, you would be disposed to interfere with. At any rate, in everything else, putting that by for the moment, I think we very cordially agree. (Cheers.) I am very sorry that we are obliged somehow or other to mix a little politics with our excursions of pleasure, but it seems to belong to the habit of the country—(Hear, hear)—and if you make some challenge to me upon a public matter, such as one in particular that has been mentioned, I won't pass it by without notice. It was a reference that was made to the state of the county franchise—(Hear, hear)—and to the fact that a large number of persons are now deprived of the franchise because they happen to live beyond the boundaries of a borough. If they are within those boundaries or if the borough boundaries should be extended, they would get the franchise immediately. (Hear, hear.) In former times the distinction of county franchise and borough franchise was a very reasonable distinction, and I will not now enter into the question whether property franchises in the counties will be preserved without bringing them into the boroughs. But this I will say, that looking at the manner in which counties are now intermingled in this country, and in which vast populations that substantially have the character of borough populations are spread over almost over the entire face of counties like South Lancashire and the West Riding of Yorkshire, it is the height of absurdity as well as the height of injustice to pretend to stand upon the present exclusion. (Loud cheers.) I think you know the time is very near at hand when you will get that matter conceded. (Renewed cheers.) The Government go on opposing it and voting against it, but the opposition they offer to it is a sham opposition. (Laughter and cheers.) I do not mean to say that they are desirous to give it to you—(renewed laughter)—but I think they are pretty well aware that they cannot help giving it you—(cheers)—and when they see that the thing must be done, I think, judging from former experience—(laughter)—that they will prefer your having it from them to your getting it from us. (Loud laughter and cheers.) But now,

don't go to sleep about it, for if you go to sleep about it I think the Government will remain asleep also. (Hear, hear.) I leave the question, gentlemen. You have spoken of the contest which we had for South-West Lancashire in 1868. Well, our friend, Mr. Holt, has said that in the immediate neighbourhood with which he is connected we had a majority. Not only so, but this I must say with great satisfaction—for the entire hundred of West Derby. The vote for West Derby in 1868 was much better than in 1865, and the reason of the change is this—that in 1865 we had the hundred of Salford to carry us through, whereas in 1868 it was partly promised; and I am bound to say that the hundred of Salford appeared at that time rather to have gone backward, while West Derby went forward. (Hear, hear.) However, in one way or another, by the kindness of another constituency I was returned to Parliament, and we had a Parliament which did act, and is likely, at any rate, to be remembered in the history of this country. We went in a very strong Government, and we came out a very weak Government. And how did we become a weak Government, instead of being a strong one? I say, fearlessly, we spent our strength in serving the public. (Hear, hear.) Now, the public is a very grateful public when you can really get its attention; but what we call the public very seldom attend to its own interests. (Hear, hear.) On one side commonly stand the public, and on the other side in this country stands what are called classes. (A Voice: "Publicans.") The public very seldom think seriously about its own interests—(Hear, hear)—classes always do. The public goes to sleep; classes, even if they go to sleep at night, keep one eye open. (Laughter.) Well, it was not possible for us to deal with the measures that we dealt with and not to offend—at any rate, I won't admit that we injured—(Hear, hear)—not to offend and irritate some classes. You know something about what some of these classes are. (Laughter.) We are all here in good humour, and therefore we won't enter into particulars. (Laughter.) But it was by the votes of classes and by the interests of classes carried over from us to our opponents that we were defeated at that time. It is all very good. Turn about, perhaps, is fair play—and for each man to have his innings. (Hear, hear.) All these are popular opinions and sentiments in this country, and certainly I think it was very good for us that we should rest, and for the oldest among us to consider whether we had not pretty well got to the end of our tether. ("No, no," and laughter.) However that may be, this is in the main a self-governing country—(Hear, hear)—and if the country is badly governed it is the fault, we may say, of the people themselves—(Hear, hear)—and they must take the consequences if they return Parliaments with which afterwards they are not satisfied. The result of this arrangement is that the people of this country have got already, and will, I hope, get more and more, a sense of self-reliance and self-dependence, of responsibility, of duty to themselves, of duty to their families, of duty to their country, of duty to their God—(applause)—in the discharge of public functions. And it is because I have this confidence that I look to the extension of the county franchise with such interest. Every man that we can bring in to exercise political functions will thereby become, as a rule, a better citizen, more interested in the welfare of this country, and better qualified to discharge his duties.

Mr. Gladstone spoke eloquently and humorously about British interests in relation to the Eastern Question, and, after enlarging upon the pleasure to be derived from the beauties of nature, he concluded amidst much cheering.

**A SUCCESSFUL ARTIST.**—A young Parisian artist lately painted a portrait of a duchess, which did not satisfy her friends declaring it was totally unlike her. The painter was convinced, however, that he had succeeded, and proposed that a little dog belonging to the duchess should be brought, to prove the resemblance. The dog was brought before witnesses, and no sooner did he see it than he sprang upon it, licked it all over, expressing great joy. The painter's triumph was complete. He had retouched the picture during the night with a thin coating of lard. The dog's nose was sharper than the critics' eyes.

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**The Nonconformist.**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 1877.

**SUMMARY.**

THERE has been no decisive news during the week from the seat of war. Russian reinforcements are coming forward, and with their aid the line of communication from Sistova to Tirnova, and, indeed, to the Shipka Pass, has been made secure. Apparently the Turks have lost their opportunity of gaining any signal advantage during the three weeks that have elapsed since their great victory at Pleyna. It seems that Osman Pasha continues to strengthen that strongly-entrenched position. But the enemy prefers the attempt to manoeuvre him out of it to another dangerous assault. A flying corps has been sent to cut off his communication with Sophia, and already this large body of cavalry has greatly harassed his army by interrupting his communications and cutting off his convoys. The supply of provisions in Osman Pasha's camp is said to be intermittent, and no news of his position is now received at Constantinople. The advance of Suleiman Pasha has been slow. Up to Monday, so far from having effected a junction with either Mehemet Ali or Osmou, he had not even crossed the Balkans—the two principal passes of which, the Shipka and Hainkoi, were strongly garrisoned by Russian troops. As soon as the Imperial Guard, a picked force of some 60,000 men, reach the scene of hostilities, which is not expected before the second week in September, the struggle will be actively renewed. The Turkish commander-in-chief is also receiving reinforcements, but the quality of his new troops is decidedly inferior. His movements are involved in mystery. Both sides are, however, preparing for a winter campaign.

The threats of a Servian intervention have not yet ceased, and the time has now come when it might be undertaken with some effect. It is still reported that some action on the part



of Prince Milan's army with a view to act upon the communications of Osman Pasha would not be resented in Austria, and the fear of Count Andrassy's tacit assent has stirred up the Hungarians to protest against such a policy, and induced Kossuth to come forward and demand an alliance with Turkey. With a view to such an eventuality the Cabinet of Belgrade has been modified. Perhaps, however, nothing more will result than the creation of a fear at Constantinople that their old foes are about to take the field again, which would oblige the Turks to station a body of troops on the Servian frontier. The Czar would probably have no objection to Servian co-operation at such a juncture, but that would hardly be given without the prospect of an extension of Servian territory, to which Austria would not assent. In another fortnight Russia may require no allies.

The final withdrawal of the expedition to Sukum-Kaleh indicates that the Turks have given up any expectation of successfully arousing the Circassians against their Russian masters. With their force has departed many thousands of compromised insurgents, who have been taken to Trebizonde. A considerable body of the Sultan's Asiatic troops has been despatched to Varna to reinforce Mehmet Ali Pasha in the coming struggle. This implies great confidence on the part of Mukhtar Pasha in his ability to maintain his entrenched position on the frontier. Heavy reinforcements have reached the Russians at Alexandropol, and the plan of the new campaign, upon which General Melikoff or his successor is about to enter, is kept a profound secret.

From both Russians and Turks there are protests against the inhuman outrages of the other side. The stories that come from the south side of the Balkan mountains are truly appalling. There civil war in its most horrible form rages, or has raged. There does not seem to be any doubt that the Bulgarians, and to a less extent, the Cossacks have turned their arms against the Turkish population. But their atrocities pale before those perpetrated under the auspices of the Ottoman authorities by Bashi-Bazouks and other ruffians in their employ, and which have been on such a scale as to have called forth a formal protest from the German Government. The misery inflicted upon the unarmed population is unspeakable. Whether one side or the other gains the mastery, they are the victims. What is to be the ultimate result? How are these races, roused to the highest pitch of mutual hatred and acts of vengeance, to settle down again under the same government. These are the problems that lie behind this terrible conflict, and suggest the doubt whether war is the best or an adequate remedy for the oppression under which the Christian subjects of the Porte have for generations suffered.

During the past week Mr. Gladstone has been visited—shall we say intrusively—at Hawarden by one or two detachments of Lancashire Liberals, to each of whom he has delivered facile addresses. In respect to the war, the right hon. gentleman, while not expressing distrust of the Ministerial declarations in Parliament before the prorogation, recommended the utmost vigilance during the recess, lest the neutrality of England should be departed from. He also spoke with approbation of "the real Liberal and popular basis" on which the Birmingham Confederation is founded—which the *Pall Mall Gazette* somewhat unfairly interprets as an endorsement of the disestablishment principle. Mr. Gladstone also expressed his belief that the time was near at hand when an extension of the county franchise would be conceded, probably by the Conservatives in order to prevent the question from being settled by the Liberals, together with a redistribution of seats—which is the real difficulty in the case.

There have been two characteristic elections during the week. By an immense majority Lord Burghley, an "eldest son," has been returned for North Northamptonshire, to fill the seat vacant by the death of Mr. Ward Hunt. His youthful lordship, who is in the army, showed a profound and discreditable ignorance of the rudiments of politics, and it is really a scandal that such a man should be elected to represent a great constituency simply because he has a handle to his name, and has "great expectations." For the County of Clare, Sir Bryan O'Loughlin, brother of the late member, was returned, though at present at the Antipodes. He was carried by the influence of the priests against The O'Gorman Mahon, a veteran Repealer, whose sympathies are said to be in favour of the Irish "irreconcilables." To a certain extent the election was a triumph for Mr. Butt. Both the hon. member for Limerick and Mr. O'Donnell have appeared in public during the week. Mr. Butt sticks to the opinion, and again proclaims it, that the Obstructionists are destroying the

Irish party. Mr. O'Donnell, in addressing a great gathering of Irishmen at Glasgow, which he compared to O'Connell's monster meeting at Tara, declared his intention still to thwart English legislation. Apparently there will be demonstrations on both sides in Ireland during the recess, in which the Seven will indubitably carry the mob with them.

Marshal MacMahon has been visiting some of the principal towns of Normandy, Cherbourg included, during the week. His reception has been chequered, and the President has had to listen to some very plain speaking. All the evidence that comes to hand confirms the belief that at the October elections the Republicans, spite of M. de Fourton, will gain a signal success. Another cause of disunion has arisen in the Conservative ranks. The *Figaro*, instigated by General Ducrot, who is severely denounced by the *Moniteur*, has been clamorously demanding the proclamation of a state of siege, to which policy the Duc de Broglie strongly objects. In fact, the Premier and the Orleanists are falling back upon Constitutional maxims, and appear to be coming to the conclusion, not merely that the Marshal will have to retire, but that M. Thiers will assuredly take his place. In truth, these slippery politicians have far less dread of a Republican triumph than of a Bonapartist success, which would in the end exclude them altogether from public affairs.

#### THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

THERE seems a prevalent opinion that the proceedings at the British Association this year have been somewhat dull. So far as we are able to judge there has been really no ground for that impression, except the fact that the society has kept itself, perhaps, more strictly than usual, to its legitimate functions. Its object is the advancement of science, not the provision of sensational entertainment, nor yet of theological discussion. And to our thinking the inaugural address of Professor Allen Thomson was remarkably fitting and opportune. For the purposes of such an address one of two lines may be adopted. The president may take a general review of the recent progress of scientific discovery, and may point out to the specialists of the various sections the links that are still wanting for the correlation of their various conclusions; or he may take some great scientific or cosmological theory, as yet only half developed or imperfectly apprehended, and he may show what light is thrown upon it by any researches in which he himself has been specially concerned. Professor Allen Thomson took the latter course. He selected as his topic that theory of the development of the various forms of animal life which is associated with the name of Darwin, and he illustrated it by the most recent discoveries in embryology. The subject led him into an amount of detail of which some fatigued hearers have complained. But they might, perhaps, with advantage be reminded that, as people without an ear for music should not go to concerts where they only disturb those who have, so people uninterested in scientific detail are better away from the meetings of an association for the advancement of science. It must, indeed, be granted that the president is rather wanting in that power of lucid exposition possessed so pre-eminently by Professor Huxley. But then such a gift is exceedingly rare, and if none but those who have it are qualified to become Presidents of the British Association, a rota would have to be established comprising not more than three or four names. In other respects the address was not at all open to some criticisms that have been made upon it. The speaker was thoroughly master of his subject, and he stuck to it in a business-like manner, calmly ignoring all the tempting side issues opened up by such an argument. He stated his own firm conviction that the development of species had passed beyond the possibility of dispute; and whether we agree with him or not, we must admit that in doing so he was strictly within his province. On the other hand, he as confidently affirmed that the old maxim, "*cumne vivum ex ovo*," had not been in the least shaken by Bastian and other supporters of what is called "spontaneous generation." The ultimate inconsistency of these two positions—the former denying acts of special creation, and the latter absolutely requiring at least one such act for the production of the first "*ovum*"—did not at all disturb the professor in his quiet exposition of the facts, or what he considered to be the facts of the case. But he proceeded to show what phenomena in the first growth of the living germ appeared to confirm the theory that the development of an elephant, for instance, exhibits an epitome of all the steps by which successive species were produced until elephants appeared in the world.

There is something in this temper which we like. All of us profess to want facts. Now, if every man in his own place would quietly observe and describe the facts that come within his own province, and would refrain from imperfectly informed criticisms on facts that lie outside his province, but within somebody else's, we should get on without much acerbity of controversy. There could not be a better illustration of the harmlessness of facts than Professor Allen Thomson's interesting and amazing description of the germ and its early stages of growth. People are always fearing that such discoveries will somehow establish materialism and do away with the possibility of a spiritual life. But such timid souls would do well to remember what is meant by an explanation of anything in heaven or earth. It means, in brief, reducing an observed phenomenon to terms of our own consciousness. Thus when we are told that the earth is kept in its path by the balance of two forces, one of which would send it off in a straight line, while the other would pull it into the sun, we recall our childish experience of a stone whirled round at the end of a string, and we feel quite satisfied and comfortable. Now if this be the case it is perfectly obvious that nothing can be really an explanation which would do away with consciousness altogether. And this is what materialism in its proper sense would do. Because it would identify thought and feeling, not with the reality underlying matter, but with certain external shakings and waverings inferred, rather than discerned, through microscopic observation. This is not to reduce a phenomenon to terms of our own consciousness. It is to do away with consciousness altogether. Now we are not in the least imputing to Professor Allen Thomson either one view or another on this subject, if we remark that his microscopic revelation of germinal growth suggests in a most impressive manner the futility of all strictly materialistic explanations of the universe. Here is a speck of protoplasm, one 150th part of an inch in diameter, and in some ten months it will be an elephant. In this speck we are told there are probably five thousand billion molecules representing unnumbered elephants for hundreds of generations past, besides their predecessors, mammoths, megatheriums, or such like. No wonder the progenitors are properly represented in the incipient juvenile, when such a goodly store of germules can be packed into so convenient a compass. And how does the germ proceed? It constricts itself round its middle until it forms two globules instead of one. Then the two constrict themselves, and become four, and so on and so on till there are ninety-six. Then some of these globules begin to flatten out and take other forms, till by and by the first attempts at limbs are produced. All this is perfectly true no doubt; and it is an explanation in this sense, that we can picture in our consciousness all these forms, and conceive of internal forces at work to change one into another. But what are those forces? Ah! there our exposition breaks down, and in this pause re-enters the whole mystery of life.

#### THE INDIAN FAMINE.

THE brief telegram which the Lord Mayor received from the Chairman of the Indian Famine Relief Committee, and which he read at the Mansion House on Thursday last, should be seriously pondered by all who are concerned to maintain the honour of the English name. It is as follows:—

The committee earnestly solicit your lordship's powerful influence and support in an appeal for public assistance for the relief of the afflicted populations of southern India. The position is extremely grave. There is very great and increasing mortality from want, notwithstanding the utmost efforts of the Government. The monsoon has again been deficient. The difficulties will certainly last till January. Cattle have perished in large numbers, and among all the labouring classes there is very great destitution. Property is being sold for food. The villages have been largely deserted, and the poor are wandering in search of sustenance. The resources of the lower middle class are exhausted, owing to famine prices. Prompt liberal assistance and sympathy may mitigate the suffering.

And grave as this picture is, it by no means adequately depicts the situation. From other sources we learn that, leaving out Western, Central, and Northern India, where things are exceedingly critical, we have in the Presidency of Madras a population of eighteen millions in a condition that baffles description. At least one million are fed now by the hand of charity, and another million are saved from absolute pauperism by doing what little work their emaciated bodies will admit of on the Government relief works. Others in untold numbers are bartering away their goods for a few handfuls of pulse, vainly hoping against hope that the thirsty earth may yet be fertilised by the desired rains. It is stated on the authority of



Surgeon-Major Cornish, who has had exceptional opportunities for forming a correct opinion, that half-a-million of human beings—a number exceeding the joint armies of Russia and Turkey between the Balkans and the Danube—have already died from famine. And we are told the worst is yet to come. Day after day the supplies of rice are being exhausted, the little that remains is dearer, and the people are less able to obtain it. Thousands who have hitherto managed to obtain sufficient to keep soul and body together are joining the ranks of those who are absolutely dependent, and who must be fed or they will perish. And the difficulty of feeding them is immense. The eighteen millions of Madras who are threatened with starvation are spread over 12,000 square miles of territory, without railways, and almost without roads. Their beasts of burden have largely succumbed to the general famine; and where they can be obtained, it is found that they can do little more than carry the food requisite for their own maintenance by the way. It is true there are canals, but the available boats are utterly inadequate to convey the necessary food for so large a multitude.

In the face of so direful a calamity the duty of Englishmen is plain—it is to address ourselves promptly, and intelligently, and determinedly, to the task of affording relief. It has long been our glory that we govern India. We must now aim after the greater glory of so governing that unfortunate yet splendid country, that we may establish a claim upon the affection of her people. The Government, however, cannot do all that is required. It may show—in fact, it is showing—that it is alive to its responsibilities, and fully determined to discharge them. Still, its resources are limited, and quite inadequate to the present emergency. It cannot raise more money by taxation—at least, not in India—for it is admitted by competent authorities that under the most favourable circumstances it would not be wise to lay heavier burdens upon the people. Additional taxation now would, of course, be out of all question. The present is clearly a case for large-hearted charity. Men of all ranks and parties must unite in the presence of such exceptional suffering, and give practical expression to the Christianity with which the nation is imbued. Her Majesty, ever foremost in the work of charity, has set a noble example. The Prince of Wales also has done himself credit by the manner in which he has come to the help of the people of India. He could not have performed an act that would have been more timely, or that would have done more to win for him a place in the hearts of those over whom he is probably destined to reign.

#### LOOKING BACK.

(By our Correspondent in the Gallery).

The Session of 1877 does not contain many points on which the mind, passing it in review, may dwell with pleasure. There is, however, one feature in it in respect of which not only Nonconformists may rejoice. Whatever else the session may have done or left undone it has certainly settled the burial question. Early in the session it was announced that the Government, driven to an unwelcome position by the force of public opinion, had resolved to take the Burial Question out of the dangerous hands in which it had hitherto been nurtured and deal with it themselves. The proposal doubtless came from the Premier, who delights in these bold moves intended to confound the enemy. But though he had himself on a memorable occasion taken the lead in the question in the House of Commons, it was not competent for him as Premier to deal with it in the House of Lords. Accordingly the Duke of Richmond was entrusted with the task, and, acted upon less by his own prejudices, which are not strong, than by the objections of members of his party, he introduced a bill which was simply an astounding piece of legislative incompetence. From the outset it pleased nobody, not even those in whose interests it was chiefly conceived. Born a blunder, a deliberate attempt was made to perpetuate it as a mistake, with the result that the Government suffered one of the most significant defeats that has befallen them since they took office. Next to a triumphant majority on a direct issue raised in both Houses of Parliament, nothing could have been more gratifying to those who would have a free churchyard than the course taken by the Government. They have sedulously and at great expenditure of pains prepared for the triumph of the coming session, and even the most hardened Tory admits that the settlement of the Burial Question in a manner satisfactory to Non-

conformists cannot be delayed at most beyond 1879.

This is, I think, the main feature, the principal achievement of the session just closed. It is the only political question that has been raised, and fairly and determinately fought out by both sides. Other questions of high political importance have timidly shown themselves—such as the assimilation of the county franchise, a debate marked by the important conversion of the Marquis of Hartington. But even this question was grudgingly approached by politicians. The Opposition, though growing increasingly united under the firmer guidance of the Marquis of Hartington, still feels the influence of the noble lord's conviction that the time for fighting is not yet. To many ardent spirits below the gangway this patient stolidity of the Marquis of Hartington has occasionally furnished matter for complaint and reproach. But, however it be, and due to what cause soever, the fact remains that there has been throughout the session no evidence of renewed political life, save on the Burial Question, and that, oddly enough, was broached in the House of Lords. Parties have been distracted by the varying interests arising out of the Eastern Crisis. For the most part Liberals and Conservatives have ranged themselves in two well-defined ranks, the one rather denouncing Turkey than advocating Russia, whilst the other openly advocates Turkey and bitterly reproaches Russia. But between these two broad lines there have run independent pathways which have been trodden by more or less distinguished men, to the discomfiture of their respective parties. Mr. Gladstone in particular, has almost wholly devoted himself to the Eastern Question throughout the session, and on at least one occasion brought about a crisis which threatened to end in the formal disruption of the Opposition. As for the Government, they have been content to do as little as possible. They brought in a studiously moderate programme of work, and are seemingly content to have accomplished about one-third of it. In this Conservative desire for inaction they have been greatly helped by the conduct of the obnoxious party who by some curious accident have come to be referred to as the "seven obstructives," though practically there are not more than four. These gentlemen have in season and out of season raised their voices, more powerful than their arguments, against progress with any measure whatsoever. How they have progressed, and through what episodes, has been described from week to week throughout the session, and I will only here record as the general result of their campaign that not for many years has there been a session so barren of results as that which bears this year's date. Two hundred and thirty-eight public bills have been brought into the Commons, of which 109 have received the royal assent. This is a sufficiently imposing total, and is a by no means insignificant addition to the bulk of the Statute-book. But, practically, the reputation of the session will depend upon its having passed two bills, the Prisons Bill and the Universities Bill, neither of them of first-rate importance when brought into comparison with Mr. Gladstone's Upas-tree pruning.

The session has, in fact, been of much more importance to personages than directly to parties. On the front Opposition Bench the Marquis of Hartington has greatly advanced in the esteem of his followers, and is now beyond comparison—even not excluding Mr. Gladstone, though excluding Mr. Bright as one who takes no regular part in the business of the House—the most influential personage on the front Opposition Bench. No other member of the ex-Ministry has found an opportunity of retrieving the general position of discredit into which the fallen party naturally lapsed, nor is there seen, on reviewing the benches throughout the House, "the coming man," or men, whom Parliament and the nation are always looking for. On the Treasury Bench, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, having had the ill-fortune to meet with unusual difficulties, has not shown himself equal to the task of leading the House in stormy times, nor have any of his colleagues suggested that, failing him, there is a better man in store. In truth, the heroes of the session are Mr. Biggar, Mr. Parnell, and Mr. O'Donnell, a fact the simple statement of which forcibly stamps the session with discredit.

By the death of Mr. H. Danby Seymour, a vacancy has occurred in the representation of the Westminster division of the London School Board. By the provisions of the Act of 1876 the election to the vacant chair is in the hands of the school board, no appeal to the ratepayers being necessary.

## Literature.

### THE KHEDIVE'S EGYPT.\*

This book somewhat qualifies the sanguine view taken by Mr. McCoan in his "Egypt as it Is," which we noticed a few weeks ago; and there is a certain fitness in the two books appearing within so short a time of each other. Mr. McCoan was concerned to make it appear as if the Khedive, though too autocratic, was using his power effectually but gradually to reduce the burdens on his country; that the evils of slavery and forced labour and over-taxation had been vastly reduced, if not done away with; and that, in fact, a good deal was due to the unimprovable nature of the native, and was inevitable. He presented figures, and made out what appeared a good case for the productive power of the country, stating that in a short course of years Egypt would be in a fair way to prosperity; lauding highly the immense strides that had been made in manufactures and public works. Mr. De Leon, who was for many years Consul-General in Egypt, declares on the other hand that the Khedive, though he is an incessant worker, and apt in administration, is so much an agent in the hands of others that he cannot possibly act independently for the ultimate good; that, even though he was free so to do, it is doubtful whether his fatal errors in the past and his confessed tendencies would not render his efforts futile. He has made the fundamental mistake of endeavouring to turn Egypt from a great agricultural country into an industrial one; he has been seized with a mania for improvements on too vast a scale; and he has, instead of relieving the poor people of burdens in the proportion that has been said, fixed the yoke more firmly round their necks for generations to come. Mr. De Leon is, however, quite ready to recognise the Khedive's good personal qualities. He says:—

The three chief passions of Ismail Khedive (he says) are his passion for real estate, his vaulting ambition, which sometimes overleaps itself, and his mania for building, the latter of which he frankly admitted to me in conversation a year ago. "Every man," said the Khedive reflectively, speaking in French, as he always does, "is mad on some one subject. My mania is for building"—to use his own words, "J'ai une manie en pierre." It will be well for him and for his people should he discover, ere it be too late, his two other manias, and set to work to curb and correct them. At my last interview with Said Pasha, he expressed deep regret that he had saddled his country with a public loan and a public debt, and that he repented of it. When he died, I believe the public debt of Egypt did not exceed 5,000,000. What it now is, under the fatal facility of credit, and the new system of "financing" introduced into Egypt, and flourishing like a poisonous fungus for twelve years past, the world has been informed through the reports of the financial surgeons sent from Europe to probe and cure, if possible, the gaping wound. In justice to the Khedive, of whom, once the spoiled and petted favourite of Europe, few now have a good word to say, it must be stated that he treated Said's royal lady, and his only son, Tousseun Pasha (who died the other day), like a king and a kinsman; and still continues so to do to the surviving widow, who keeps up a state, and commands a respect second to none in the reigning house, and is treated with equal consideration and courtesy by the Khedive himself. Tousseun he married to one of his daughters, and made Minister of Education.

From Mr. De Leon's report, it really appears as though the scandal of forced labour, in spite of some pretence at modification and abandonment of it in one particular case, is substantially as bad as ever. We learn that, just as in the case of the taxes, the wages are farmed out, and that the farmers pocket a large percentage—an evil that seems almost inseparable from any process of the sort in the East, however it may be in the West. Whatever pay is promised to the labourers is paid in kind—grain and molasses—and it is on this that the Daira makes a profit, much reducing the pay, wretched as it is. In fact, the skilled labourers are the only ones who really get or are promised anything beyond a little coarse food—grain or molasses—which only keeps a man or boy in that climate in bad working order. We quote the following extract from a report on the Government forced labour:—

The wages received by the ordinary hands in the factories are 7d. to 7½d. per day for men and 4d. for boys, and by the hands working in the fields 4d. per day for men and 2½d. for boys. They are always paid in kind—grain or molasses—on which the Daira, as a rule, makes a profit. As mentioned above, they are compelled to work. Their condition is exceedingly miserable, and their appearance much more savage than the Fellahs of the Delta. Skilled Arab labourers, such as men that attend to the engines, and such like work, receive 20s. to 25s. per month. Men driving the locomotive engines receive from 3l. to 5l. per month, and stokers about 30s. per month. The pay of all is allowed to get much in arrears.

And Mr. De Leon adduces ample evidence

\* *The Khedive's Egypt; or, the Old House of Bondage under New Masters.* By EDWIN DE LEON, ex-Agent and Consul-General for Egypt. With Illustrations. (Sampson Low, Marston, and Co.)



to prove that the frightful pictures given of the condition of the poor children of seven or eight on the public works, without proper tools, labouring to scrape up earth with their hands, still have ample correspondence in reality. He supplies some really good chapters on education, on finance, on public works—thus fully proving the Khedive's "mania for building"; and some of his sentences on this subject certainly read rather like grim satires upon some of those of Mr. McCoan. In the matter of the conscription too, he feels called on to trace out a whole train of evils that induce much dishonesty and many vices among the people:—

The conscription is sternly enforced and theoretically with impartiality; but King Backsheesh can always interpose successfully here, through the venality of the agents employed, who always "make a good thing of it"; and hence the draft ever falls on that portion of the able-bodied population most wanted for the cultivation of the fields, especially in the upper country, where the population is sparse. Yet it is on this section that the twin abuses of Egyptian administration—the conscription and the *corvée* (or forced labour)—weigh most heavily on the industrious poor, who cannot buy exemption through influence or money. In addition to the blinding effects of backsheesh on the recruiting officer, the recruit is allowed to return from service after one year's duty on payment of a fixed sum.

Mr. De Leon does not share the very sanguine hope as to the recuperative powers of Egypt. He does not see how the Khedive can do other than pursue his present policy. He is too deeply involved in a powerful network of circumstances to effect any very great revolution. It is true he has set going a machinery of education, whose fruits will be manifest at a later time; he has annexed territory and sent Gordon Pasha to the Soudan, and may thus aid in stopping the slave-trade; but internal reform must be long-delayed. Slavery cannot be cut down without disturbing the whole structure of things, and Mr. De Leon does not seem to agree with Mr. McCoan in regarding it as so completely fenced in from abuses; while forced labour, he says, must continue, else where, in present conditions, is there any hope of interest for Egypt's creditors? Mr. De Leon, in a word, concludes that slavery and forced labour will only be abolished by Egypt being relieved from paying any interest to her creditors! This may or may not be the exact state of the case; but Mr. De Leon's book shows how difficult it is to get at a true notion of Egypt's condition, in spite of the reports of Mr. Cave and others. There are so many conflicting influences at work, that it seems to be the lot of every traveller and writer to fail to take some one or other into account.

We should not omit to add that the book is furnished with a useful and exhaustive index, and has a few clear and helpful illustrations. We have some doubt whether it was advisable for Mr. De Leon to encumber his book with the earlier chapters describing his journey to Egypt; but it must be admitted that it is pleasantly enough written. But any way, the book will be found of value in the way of qualifying some recent reports and statements about Egypt.

#### THE CREEDS OF CHRISTENDOM.\*

The "Translations" mentioned in this title-page are not contained in the volume before us, but in two additional volumes which we have not seen. One of these contains translations of the Ecumenical, Greek, and Latin creeds, "from the confession of Peter down to the Vatican decrees"—with the best Russian Catechism and the recent Old Catholic Propositions of the Bonn Conferences. The other contains the Lutheran, Anglican, Calvinistic, and the later Protestant Confessions of Faith. The creeds and confessions are given in the original languages from the best editions, as well as in translations.

The volume before us (of 940 pages) is introductory, and contains the history of the creeds. It will be welcomed eagerly by all students of Church history. Authors often tell us of desiderata which they are desirous to supply. And sometimes we are wicked enough to say that the desideratum is in the author's intelligence or in his imagination. But Dr. Schaff is quite entitled to say that "a 'Symbolical library' that contains the creeds and confessions of all Christian denominations fills a vacuum in theological and historical literature. Other symbolical collections are confined to particular denominations and periods. In this work the reader will find the authentic material for the study of comparative [Christian] theology—symbolics, polemics, and Irenics." "In a country like ours," Dr. Schaff adds—and the remark applies equally to England and America—"where people of all creeds meet in

daily contact, this study ought to command more attention than it has hitherto received."

This is not the place for the discussion of any of the knotty questions which the very word "creed" suggests. Dr. Schaff holds written formal creeds in higher esteem than probably do many who may read these words:—

Confessions, he says, in due subordination to the Bible, are of great value and use. They are summaries of the doctrines of the Bible, aids to its sound understanding, bonds of union among their professors, public standards and guards against false doctrine and practice. In the form of Catechisms they are of especial use in the instruction of children, and facilitate a solid and substantial religious education, in distinction from spasmodic and superficial excitement. The first object of creeds was to distinguish the church from the world, from Jews and heathen, afterwards orthodoxy from heresy, and finally denomination from denomination. In all these respects they are still valuable and indispensable in the present order of things. Every well-regulated society, secular or religious, needs an organization and constitution, and cannot prosper without discipline. Catechisms, liturgies, hymn-books, are creeds also as far as they embody doctrine.

We do not commit ourselves to all these words. But we agree entirely with Dr. Schaff when he says, "Neither creed nor no-creed can be an absolute protection of the purity of faith and practice. The best churches have declined or degenerated; and corrupt churches may be revived and regenerated by the Spirit of God, and the Word of God which abides for ever." Nor can we withhold our consent when he says:—

In a certain sense it may be said that the Christian Church has never been without a creed. The baptismal formula, and the words of the institution of the Lord's Supper are creeds; these and the confession of Peter antedate even the birth of the Christian Church on the Day of Pentecost. The Church is, indeed, not founded on symbols but on Christ; not on any words of man, but on the Word of God; yet it is founded on Christ as confessed by men, and a creed is man's answer to Christ's question, man's acceptance and interpretation of God's Word. Hence it is after the memorable confession of Peter that Christ said, "Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church," as if to say, "Thou art the Confessor of Christ, and on this confession, as an immovable rock, I shall build My church." Where there is faith, there is also profession of faith. As faith without works is dead, so it may be said also that faith without confession is dead. But this confession need not always be written, much less reduced to a logical formula.

Dr. Schaff's work deserves a welcome alike from the most strenuous upholders and the most strenuous opponents of formulated creeds as the basis either of Christian or of ministerial fellowship. It is really a history of the intellectual, if not of the spiritual, life of eighteen Christian centuries. And its author commands our heart's sympathy when he says: "The nearer believers of different creeds approach the Christological centre, the better they will understand and love each other."

#### "TOUCH AND GO."

Miss Middlemass has made a decided advance in this novel, which is constructed with great care, while the characters are generally well developed, more especially the leading ones. We do not mean that she is an imitator of Mr. Wilkie Collins, for she seldom passes beyond the border of probabilities, but she has carefully thought out her story, and leaves no loose threads about it. Particularly we should notice the freedom and ease of her dialogue, which in this case is sharply cut and characteristic for the most part. Old Peter, the lodge-keeper to an old Scottish family, standing on that familiar footing which has now almost passed out of fashion, has for sole companion a grandchild, Cicely, who is remarkable for her promise of beauty in full development. The story opens with the advent of a stranger—a Mr. Harry Durant, nephew to Old Peter's master—who has for many years been absent seeing the world. The beauty of Cicely—whom he, of course, meets on the road—takes him by surprise, and he has more reasons for an interest in her than we can now afford to tell the reader. Suddenly, while Mr. Durant is still here, Old Peter is taken ill and dies; and naturally Mr. Durant is anxious about the future of Cicely. He undertakes to find a guardian for her, which he does in the person of a Mrs. Fitzalan, who has for years been making a great figure in Paris society. Mrs. Fitzalan's desire is to make Cicely forget about old Peter, though for a long time she can neither quench nor satisfy her curiosity about her parentage, over which there had been doubt; and certainly there is some insight in the description of the process by which Mrs. Fitzalan gradually weans her to acquiescence in her projects. For her own purposes she is eager to hurry on a match between her protégée and a widower, Sir Hubert Fleming; and she manages to do so without letting Mr.

Henry Durant hear of the tidings in time to interfere. Cicely, we should say, does not love Sir Hubert, while she does love Durant. Then we are introduced to a young street waif, Deb, on whom an enthusiastic German music-teacher has cast his eye as a *prima donna* in prospect, on account of her beautiful voice. The faithful and suggestive touches by which the character of Deb is gradually revealed amply prove high possibilities in directions in which many have failed—some by over sentimentalism, and others by too stringent realism. Deb is neither too harshly real, nor too ethereal. She is of great importance to the story in the way of unfolding the schemes of Mrs. Fitzalan, and finally defeating them; and in this she has a companion character—Algy Duncombe—who is a lively, animated, but discreet young gentleman, who can do something else than make love and "lisp" and yawn. We cannot afford the space to follow all the intricacies of the plot, which, indeed, would not be fair to the author. Suffice it to say that after keeping up her secret well, we do not part from Mrs. Fitzalan, till we find she was the last daughter of Old Peter, that she had, in fact, been guilty of an odd form of "personation," and had no claim to the name of Fitzalan; that she had been in league, through this secret, with a Frenchman, Barbier, who at last, ran off with all that had been made by it. Mrs. Fitzalan's villainy, however, is not of a very deep dye, hardly competing with the Lady Audley's in this respect, though she is the villain of the story, unscrupulous, clever, full of resource, supple, insinuating, and determined: so that one is not sorry to find her outwitted at the last, and reduced to keeping a low restaurant in Paris, where, however, as we should expect, she carries herself with the same grace and tact as she had shown in the *salon*. But why did Miss Middlemass kill off Harry Durant? For that little freak of defiance to the law of poetic justice we cannot forgive her. Harry had his faults, and he had been guilty of mistakes, but he deserved a better fate, and Miss Middlemass, in our idea, would not have been too conventional had she kept him alive, even though Sir Herbert had changed. There is one element in which Miss Middlemass is rather deficient, and that is in simple pathos, and its complement, spontaneous humour. She has the wisdom, however, to make the defects as inconspicuous as may be.

Altogether, this is a clever, bright, and readable novel, showing not a little knowledge of the world, sprightliness, and freedom of dialogue, no less than the power of dealing fairly by contrasted types of character. Above all, though it introduces us to phases of life not always detached from doubtful suggestion, it is pure and elevated in tone—a novel that could with safety be put on the family table; and that is surely saying much for a lady's novel—nowadays.

#### SCHOOL BOOKS.

*The Scripture Progressive Reading Books.* (London: W. Collins, Sons, and Co.) We agree with the compiler of this series in thinking that there is a need for some kind of Scripture Readers. But we do not think that he has succeeded in supplying the want. It is not only that we do not accept many of his interpretations of the meaning of the sacred text; but we also take objection to the method of selection and arrangement. We are told in the preface that "the editor is responsible for the interpretation put upon the words of Scripture, but he has sought rather to render the text intelligible to the minds of children, than to write a theological work, and has studied to confine himself to narrative and obvious lessons of general morality and piety, keeping as far as possible on the broad lines held in common by all Christians, and leaving to the authorised teacher in each school to impart such special doctrinal instruction as may be desired." This purpose is scarcely accomplished. We could not place these Readers in the hands of the teachers and scholars of an undenominational school. But we can recommend them to Sunday-school teachers, who will find in them materials for class instruction, and many charming poems and sacred songs which their children may commit to memory.

*Guide to Chaucer and Spenser.* By F. G. FLEAY. (London: Collins.) This is a very useful manual, and needs only to be known to be widely used. It contains in a small compass all that is necessary for the right understanding of Chaucer and for the appreciation of Spenser. The same information is to be found in many works, but it has to be collected, whereas here it is arranged, and is accessible at once. A short biography of Chaucer and Spenser is given, and notes on Chaucer's language, on the sources of his works, and on the arrangement of the "Canterbury Tales," follow the narra-

\* *A History of the Creeds of Christendom.* With Translations. By PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D., LL.D. (London: Hodder and Stoughton.)

*Touch and Go.* By JEAN MIDDLEMASS, Author of "Wild Georgie," &c. In Three Vols. (London: Chatto and Windus.)



tive of his life. Similarly explanations are given of Spenser's works, and a chapter is devoted to the contemporary poets of Spenser and Shakespeare. This is a novelty, and shows an intimate acquaintance with what Mr. Fleay affirms is "the finest, although too often neglected, literary epoch in the world."

*Shakespeare's Tragedy of Julius Caesar.* By SAMUEL NEIL. (Collins.) Mr. Neil is well known as one of the most competent of the Shakespearian students of the present day. This edition of *Julius Caesar* bears testimony to the fulness of his knowledge and the thoroughness of his work. Copious extracts are given from Plutarch's lives to enable the young student to have in his mind the historical setting for the dramatic picture which follows; and a short biographical account is added of all the *dramatis personæ*. The most interesting portion of the introduction is that in which "Shakespeare's idea of *Julius Caesar*" is collected from his various plays. It is thus summed up:—

His Julius Caesar is a hero in whom success has produced habits of haughtiness; in whom philosophy has failed to overcome superstitious fear; in whom desire and policy conspire to make a despot, and whom self-flattery and courtierly fawning combine to mislead. It is a man of greater energy than dignity, who strikes the imagination, puzzles the understanding, and disappoints the heart; he exhibits active intelligence without depth; he excites admiration rather than reverence, and induces astonishment rather than inspires love. His material conquests are magnificent; but he lacks the highest moral might—the power of self conquest.

As a contribution to the argument that Shakespeare wrote the plays that bear his name, and not Lord Bacon, as some assert, Mr. Neil has placed the philosopher's in contrast with the dramatist's character of Julius Caesar. The comparison and contrast are instructive. Explanatory notes follow the text of the drama, and a few questions are added to test the student's memory and intelligence. This is a useful edition of a noble play.

*A History of Latin Literature.* By LEONHARD SCHMITZ, LL.D. (Collins.) Dr. Schmitz observes—"It seems strange that in this country, where Latin is taught in all the public, and even in most of the middle-class schools, there does not exist, as far as I know, a concise general history of Latin literature that might be put into the hands of young students, and give them a succinct history of its treasures, of its gradual development and of its ultimate decay. I have endeavoured to supply this want in a manner which, I hope, may be acceptable not only to the student of Latin, but to educated readers in general, who cannot fail to take an interest in the literature of a people that has exercised, and is still exercising, so great an influence upon the civilised world." The name of the editor of this volume is a sufficient guarantee of its accuracy and usefulness; but lest any of our readers should imagine that it is merely a catalogue of names of authors and their works, we beg to assure them that it is much more than that. It is, compared with the length of time it covers, a small book. Twelve centuries of Latin literature are reviewed in 250 pp., but space has been found by the learned author in which to give a short account of the poet or historian, and to add a few lines of criticism.

*Elements of Geometry, Based on Euclid.* Book I. By EDWARD ATKINS, B.Sc. (Collins.) The order and method of Euclid are followed in this edition; but the symbolical notation is employed in addition in side lines. The printing is excellent, and the exercises are sufficiently numerous.

*History of Europe from the Decadence of the Western Empire to the Reformation.* By SUTHERLAND MENZIES. (Collins.) Mr. Menzies has attempted, in this small volume, to write in an interesting manner the history of the Middle Ages. The task would have seemed to us an impossible one, nor has the success of our author been so evident as to convince us of its possibility. The book is a dictionary of events, and names, and dates. It will be valuable as a reference to larger works, such as those of Gibbon and Hallam; and as such it should find a place in every school library.

*An Homeric Dictionary for use in Schools and Colleges, from the German of Dr. George Autenrieth.* Translated, with additions and corrections, by ROBERT P. KEEP, Ph.D. (London: Macmillan and Co.) This dictionary will be found a valuable aid by young students of Homer. It is often a commentary and grammar as well as a dictionary of words, and it is abundantly illustrated with excellent woodcuts. A few large plates are placed at the end, showing the chariots of the Greeks, the plan of the house of Odysseus, the rigging of a Homeric ship, and the present aspect of the Trojan Plain, with a few notes on Schliemann's recent

excavations. Dr. Keep, the translator, is an American teacher, and has bestowed immense pains to make this work perfect in accuracy and fulness of information. Of this fact the preface contains abundant proof; but it also contains some useful practical suggestions as to the use of the book.

Let the beginning be made by grounding the student carefully and thoroughly upon the forms and peculiarities of the Homeric dialect, with the necessary constant comparison of Homeric and Attic forms. During this stage the use of a larger lexicon in connection with the present volume will be necessary. Two books read in this way would suffice. This done, the second step would be to proceed much more rapidly, requiring of the students in recitation only an accurate and intelligent translation of the text, and such knowledge as to the meaning and history of the words as this dictionary furnishes. The editor's own experience leads him to believe that a pupil with this dictionary in his hands will easily read two pages of Homer in the time which, with the large lexicons, would be required for one page.

Dr. Keep afterwards adds what we presume is as applicable to English higher middle-class schools as to the seminaries of the United States. "The requirements of a scheme of liberal study in our times are so extensive that the necessity of economising labour, whenever it can be done without detriment to mental discipline, is self-evident. It may be, indeed, that Greek and Latin will only be able to hold their place in our courses of higher education by welcoming and encouraging every legitimate help by which the labour necessary for acquiring a knowledge of the two chief ancient languages, and gaining an acquaintance with their literatures, may be abridged."

*Elementary Lessons on Physical Geography.* By ARCHIBALD GEIKIE, LL.D., F.R.S. (London: Macmillan and Co.) This is a thoroughly scientific and practical treatise upon a subject which is at present, speaking generally, very badly taught, especially in our elementary schools. It supplies not only the material for instruction, but also suggestions as to how to teach. It is a work calculated to develop the intelligence of both teacher and scholar; while to the former, especially if he be a good draughtsman, it will afford abundant illustrations for the blackboard.

NAFTEL'S CHEAP GERMAN SERIES.—*The Second German Reader. The Second Exercise Book.* (London: Longmans.) These books are in continuation of the series to which we have already twice directed attention. The books are remarkable for condensation as well as for their cheap price. The exercise-book contains a collection of examination papers.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SERIES.—*English Grammar for Elementary Schools.* (London: Daldy, Isbister and Co.) English grammars are nearly always alike. Their authors copy from one another. This is free from many faults which are too common in our English grammar: but its method is not so original or scientific as to claim special commendation.

EPOCHS OF MODERN HISTORY.—*The Beginning of the Middle Ages.* By R. W. CHURCH, Dean of St. Paul's, &c. (London: Longmans.) "The present volume," says Dean Church in his preface, "must be considered as an introduction or preface to the series of Epochs of Modern History, rather than as an integral member of the series. The other volumes are narratives and enter into detail. This one is a mere general sketch, necessarily one of the barest outline, faint and vague where they are full. My aim has been little more than to disengage the leading lines in the history of five most important and most confused centuries, and to mark the influences which most asserted themselves and which seem to have most governed the results as we see them in subsequent history." The way in which these outlines have been filled out shows the hand of a master. We have first the whole period mapped out in a chronological table extending from the close of the first century to the beginning of the eleventh. Then follow the details of the various epochs which make up this period. The history of the ancient world is divided from that of the modern by the two great catastrophes of the fall of Jerusalem and the breaking up of the Roman Empire. The immediate effects of these events are then indicated. But the re-settlement of Europe with new inhabitants, and the creation of new or greatly modified institutions, are the actual beginnings of the middle ages, and these are the subjects of this volume. The materials are distributed into eleven chapters:—"The Teutonic Settlements in the West and the end of the Western Empire"—"The new nations and the efforts of the Empire"—"Condition of the Teutonic Settlements as affected by (1) Religion, (2) Roman Law, (3) the Latin Language"—"The Conquest of Britain by the Saxons, and their Conversion"—"The Franks and Alliance of Pepin's House with the Popes"—"The Roman Empire in

the East and Conquests of the Saracens"—"Charles the Great and the Temporal Power of the Popes"—"Successors of Charles and End of the Frank Dominion"—"Consolidation of the English People and the Anglo-Saxon Church"—"Results of Break-up of Frank Empire, the Northern Kingdoms"—"Retrospect of the Times of Transition from the Roman Empire to the European States of the Middle Ages." In conclusion, we may quote the final words of the preface:—"Three small maps are added. But it cannot be too strongly impressed on students from the first, not only that they ought always to read with a map at their side, but that they need a special map for each period. They cannot be too early made familiar with the truth that a map is an historical as well as a geographical picture, and represents on the background of unchanging nature the changing seats and fortunes of men."

#### BRIEF NOTICES.

*Handbook to the Picture Galleries of Europe.* With a Short History of the various Schools of Painting. From the Thirteenth Century to the Eighteenth inclusive. By KATE THOMPSON. (Macmillan and Co.) Miss Thompson has the good fortune to have filled what was really a gap in our handbook literature; and has done it well. She is a daughter of the distinguished physician, Sir Henry Thompson, and has been in the habit of accompanying her father on trips to the Continent, when their chief pleasure lay in visits to the picture galleries. Miss Thompson here systematises her notes and impressions for the benefit of others. She has not only observed and exercised her own judgment on individual points, but she has read widely and well, and gives a very fair list of authorities. Her plan is to proceed by countries, speaking first of Italy, then of Flanders, next of Holland, and after that of Germany and Spain. Then comes France, and England follows—the rise and progress of painting in England being most succinctly traced out. After the essay in each case comes a chronological table, showing the dates at which the principal masters and schools flourished; and the latter part of the volume is occupied with admirably-arranged catalogues of the various galleries. This is a piece of work which could not have been done to order; it is the result of patient and loving observation and study, carried on for a long period of years, and no useless word or sentence appears in the whole volume. Many will thank Miss Thompson for this book, which will make the way pleasant over large fields, which were apt to become tedious and trying from the want of a simple principle of order and guidance such as we think this book will supply.

*Nothing but the Truth.* An Unvarnished Picture of the Effects of Intemperance. A Tale. By WILLIAM GILBERT, author of "Shirley Hall Asylum," &c., &c. (William Mullin and Son.) Mr. Gilbert is a somewhat diffuse but not unimpressive writer, and he has a remarkable way of working up his effects after the "drop-by-drop-wearing-away-the-stone" style. But really, even Mr. Gilbert's pre-Raphaelite "Defoeism," as it has been called, will not justify the manner in which his old well-known story of "Margaret Meadows" has been served up by Mr. Mullin, under a new and taking title, as though it were a fresh story. There is no hint by note of any kind that it is other, and this we say is not fair.

*Music in the House.* By JOHN HULLAH, LL.D. (Macmillan and Co.) Mr. Hullah has added a most valuable little volume to the "Art at Home" series, telling us in the most clear and simple way what is possible in the development of domestic music and what is not. He gives many hints of a practical kind, and is, as we are glad to see, particularly emphatic on the delightful effects of the pianoforte and violin duet. This is a direction that chamber-music ought to take. What he says as to glees and the radical defect in them we endorse. We value his remarks, too, about the necessity of singing being the initial part, the basis of musical education. There are exceptional cases, of course, where, though a fine musical sense may be present, defects of voice, &c., may forbid; but general rules in such cases do not recognise exceptions.

All musical education (says Dr. Hullah) should begin—the earlier the better—with singing, the natural practice of which involves the acquisition of a number of principles and facts, and—more important still—the early formation of a number of *habits*, which lie at the root alike of musical science and skill. This rule having been followed, the beginner on whatever instrument would find a great deal of the work apparently before him really behind him. Not only would he recognise as a fact that this note was called C and that D, this note a crotchet, that a quaver, but he would know before he heard them how D and C ought to sound in



reference to one another, and how a crotchet and a quaver in the same strain should be rhythmically proportioned. Above all, his ear being already "formed," having once learned the place on the finger or keyboard of the notes whose effect he was able to anticipate, he would not only, with a very little practice, avoid playing wrong notes, but soon—weeks, months, nay years sooner than the average beginner, avoid playing right notes wrongly, i.e., out of tune. The management of the bow-arm, the action of the fingers on a keyboard, of the lips on a reed or a mouthpiece—these are mechanical arts, and like the management of the bat or the leaping-pole, matters of practice.

And we are glad to see that Dr. Hullah is hearty in his recognition of the service of a modified solfaing in at least two directions. "A choir fairly trained in the use of the fixed *Do* might solfa creditably, the most difficult movement of Bach's mass in B minor, or Brahms's Requiem, while two or three practitioners of the "movable *Do*" were settling the names of the notes in the first half-dozen bars (!)"

*A Basket of Summer Fruit.* By DORA GREENWELL. (Daldy, Isbister, and Co.) Miss Greenwell is a mystic-eclectic. From the Fathers, the American pantheists, the Evangelical revivalists, the sentimental poets, she can gather materials for spiritual support and reverie, and turn everything (even of the most logically-adverse kind) to her own uses. We have had tokens of this peculiar process in former books; but in the present case it is unmeasured. This little volume is a bundle of extracts such as we daresay no person but Miss Greenwell would have bound together by a common thread, and she excuses herself on the plea that a basket preserves some easiness and freedom of arrangement. A fine, pious, meditative spirit obtains throughout, and if the reader does not come expecting something different, the volume will be found readable! We have again to note much carelessness in citation and extract, and surely "Mother Margaret Hallahan" should be "Mother Mary"?

*Poems, Lyrics, Songs, and Sonnets.* By FRANCIS BENNOCH, F.S.G. (Hardwicke and Bogue.) Mr. Bennoch has distinctly some sweetness of lyrical touch, as is seen notably in some of the Scotch songs—"Minnie and Me" for example. But he fails in longer flights, and we are not sure that he has not made a mistake in reprinting the "Tale of St. Albans," &c., which will hang, we fear, like a dead-weight round the more "fragile presences" which have the most claim on us. A careful and judicious selection from the songs and sonnets would have served his purpose better, we fancy. But as it is, we have found much to enjoy in the volume—happy touches, graceful turns, naive lines and suggestions. Mr. Bennoch has already had such result from his verses, besides his pleasure in composing them, as would delight most singers, and be felt as a rich guerdon. They have, he tells us, secured him the friendship of such men as Wordsworth, Southey, Landor, Kingsley, Dickens, Haydn, Sir Henry Bishop, De Quincey, Allan Cunningham, Miss Mitford, Bryant, Longfellow, Bayard Taylor, Grace Greenwood, Hawthorne, and others. We trust that all his hopes with regard to this handsome and nicely-printed volume (which, we observe, Mr. Bennoch dedicates to his wife), may be realised.

*P. P. Bliss: His Life and Work.* Edited by Major WHITTLE and the Rev. W. GUEST (Morgan and Scott), is distinguished from another publication with the same title, by the fact that it is "published in the interest of the family." It is an admirable memoir, with excellent portraits and an introduction by Mr. Moody. The circumstances under which this work is published, give it a priority of moral claim before any other memoir of the lamented author of "Hold the Fort."

*The Cruise of the Elena; or, Yachting in the Hebrides.* By J. EWING RITCHIE. (James Clarke and Co.) Mr. Ritchie, as we all know, has a pleasant way of telling a story of travel. If he does not give us much to think about—and that is oftener wanted than not in these hard-thinking days—he is observant and genial. These qualities shine in the little book before us. Mr. Ritchie is so happy as to have a friend who owns a yacht—a much better thing than owning a yacht oneself. The friend invited Mr. Ritchie to take a holiday cruise with him. Nothing loth, Mr. Ritchie accepted the invitation. The cruise was along that coast which Mr. Black, above all writers, has made so familiar to us in the "Princess of Thule," the west coast of Scotland. So we have Ardrossan, and Oban, and Mull, and Stornoway, very pleasantly sketched. Mr. Ritchie evidently enjoyed himself, and his readers will equally enjoy what he has written.

*The Smoker's Guide, Philosopher, and Friend.* By a VETERAN OF SMOKE-DOOM, (Hardwicke and Bogue.)

Whether the reader be a smoker or not, he will find this to be both a curious and a very readable book. The author, as might be expected, is somewhat enthusiastic in favour of smoking, but he tempers his enthusiasm with discretion. The information that he gives is wide, and almost exhaustive. He tells of the history, cultivation, manufacture, and consumption of tobacco; of its various kinds, and its influences; tells one of the specifically good qualities of various kinds, as well of cigars as of pipes—at the same time denouncing cigarettes. We were prepared to be somewhat taken aback by the chapter on "Tobacco in the Religious Point of View," but the question is treated fairly, Mr. Spurgeon being cited as the great authority. Here, Charles Kingsley might have been added. However, the author is frank, so frank as to quote Dr. Lankester's furious denunciation of smoking, and above all he condemns smoking by the apish young. The book is amusing.

*The Political Progress of Christianity.* By the Hon. ALBERT S. CANNING. (Smith, Elder, and Co.) We read, or tried to read, Mr. Canning's essay on "Christian Toleration," which we found to be a well-intentioned mixture of eruditions and commonplaces. This work is an equally well-intentioned mixture of familiar and unfamiliar quotations—quotations of such different purpose and tendency, held together by such a loose thread, that it is sometimes difficult to see what the author means. We gather, however, his opinion that political power is all tending in favour of Christianity, and was "never so exclusively in Christian hands as at present." He has a suggestive remark also that there have been no national conversions to Christianity for a long period. Until Christianity shall become better understood than it is at present, perhaps it is as well that this should be so.

*Woman, and her Work in the World.* By C. N. CRESSWELL. (Hardwicke and Bogue.) This little book has somehow been misplaced in our collection—just as a bill unpaid will sometimes get amongst the "bills paid," and cause a natural chagrin, when detected in its dishonest classification. Now that we have found Mr. Cresswell's work we can only speak honestly and not too generously of it. It is somewhat crude, and here and there somewhat fanciful, but it has many good and some wise thoughts in it, not on the whole, however, so good or so wise as Monod's upon the same subject. Mr. Cresswell writes in the spirit of Florence Nightingale's exclamation—which he quotes, and which we will quote again—"Away with both these jargons! [Woman's rights and woman's peculiar vocation.] The question is not what woman may do, or should do, but what she can do, what is best for her to do. Let her do all she can, if it be God's work, in simplicity and singleness of heart." Our author treats of various aspects of his question, such as marriage, divorce, Christianity, progress, sin. On the last he writes vigorously, and with human sympathy for sinners. But how long will men write as this man and others before him have written, and yet women cease not to spurn the erring of their own sex?

*By a Way they Knew Not, &c.* By MARTHA RIGDEN. (Book Society.) This is a well-written and touching memoir of "Blind Fanny Winton," whom, we daresay, some of our readers at Brighton and Shoreham may have known. Fanny was blind and bed-ridden for more than thirty years, living all the time in pain and suffering as well. Yet, in her, patience was exhibited almost to perfection, and her life was one of the finest testimonies to the graces of Christian faith. No one can read this work without profit.

*Helen's Babies* has already been noticed by us, but Messrs. Warne have issued a new edition as the commencement of a "Helen's Babies Series." It is cheap and exceedingly well printed. It is followed by *Me, July, and August*, which, while it has some humorous passages, is too sketchy, too forced, and too artificial. *Brother Billy, Dorey Baker, and Bubby Short*, is better, but this, too, is not in the best style of American humour.

*The Globe Encyclopedia.* Vol. III. Edinburgh. (Thomas C. Jack.) This third volume, from Fa to Ke, keeps up the standard of care and skilful condensation by which the former two were marked. The biographical notes are admirable, no less than those on natural history. We notice in this volume some admirable articles of a more general kind—those on Great Britain, Greece, Ireland, and India especially. To persons who have not access to one of the more detailed Cyclopedias, the *Globe* may be very confidently recommended, as one that is very likely to supply their place in most cases, and certainly Mr. Jack, the publisher, and Mr. Ross, the editor, are to be complimented on the manner in which the work has thus far been carried out.

## HOME RULE AND OBSTRUCTION.

An influential deputation of London Irishmen waited on Mr. Butt, M.P., by appointment, at his residence in the St. George's-road, on Friday evening, to obtain his views on the policy initiated by Messrs. Biggar and Parnell. The members of the deputation said they represented the Irishmen resident in and about the metropolis, and there was a very strong feeling in favour of the new line of action recently inaugurated. The events arising from this had aroused the Irish in Great Britain from that rather dormant state they were gradually relapsing into, and greater activity was to be seen in all the large centres of industry where the Home-Rule Confederation was established. The Irish of London had no further confidence in the policy that had hitherto been pursued by the Home-Rule party in Parliament, as it had been productive of nothing but failure, seeing that out of over 115 measures relating to Ireland introduced during the present Parliament, they had all been ignominiously rejected by the intrusion of the British vote, notwithstanding the majority of the representatives of Ireland were in favour of them, with the solitary exception of a measure introduced by the hon. gentleman himself, which enabled the people to select three candidates for the office of sheriff, with a power of veto by the Lord-Lieutenant. In this disappointing state of matters, and as the people were unanimously in favour of a new departure in politics, they had come to Mr. Butt frankly to state to him the feelings of the Irishmen of London, hoping that something reassuring would be said by him which they could tell to the people. Mr. Butt, in reply, stated that he was greatly pleased to see the gentlemen present, as nothing gave him greater pleasure than to interchange ideas with those most intimately connected with the Irish people of London, and, indeed, Great Britain. With regard to what was commonly called the obstructive policy, he would neither lead in it nor have anything whatever to do with it. He was thoroughly alive to the fact that the Irish in Great Britain were altogether in favour of the recent action of a few gentlemen of the party, but if he were allowed to follow out his own plan, he would still continue to act as he had hitherto done, unless, indeed, something arose which would cause him to change his ideas—such, for instance, as a Russian war. He confessed very little had been done this Session by the party, although he was pledged by the Conference of British Delegates at Dublin last year to more activity in Parliament; but at the commencement of the session just ended he had been attacked by illness, which quite prevented him from devising and doing many things. He knew perfectly well that a barren session was very trying to their supporters outside the House, but they must remember this, that they were teaching a great lesson to the Whig party, and that party were gradually experiencing the fact that they could never hope to get into power again without the assistance of the Irish party. It would have been the greatest calamity to Ireland if that party had taken the place of the Conservatives twelve months ago, because they would have attained office without any pledge to Ireland; but as the case now stood, he considered them bound to at least one measure, and that was the equalisation of the franchise. They could never take office without making this a Government bill. Then he thought next year they would be able to carry the bill for county boards. Several leading men of the Whig connection often asked him why could not the Irish party unite with them on those measures they were agreed upon, and they would go with him almost in anything short of Home Rule. He said that was the very measure they wanted, and as soon as they adopted that they would receive their support. Mr. Butt said that the men who attempted to break up or divide the Home Rule party would have a very serious responsibility to answer for; it had cost him a great amount of labour and trouble, and he had now got, not without considerable difficulty, the bishops and clergy in favour of it, and they had a party which was before unknown to political life in Ireland, and when that party was increased to eighty members the British Parliament would not be able to resist the demand of a united nation. He certainly believed in greater activity being shown—for instance, they could raise a debate and expose every Irish grievance on the estimates, and he thought the estimates would be brought in earlier next session, when this could be availed of. The deputation heartily thanked Mr. Butt and took their leave of him.

On Saturday afternoon the Home Rulers of the West of Scotland held a great demonstration in a field near Glasgow. There were about 8,000 persons present, and the proceedings passed off quietly. Mr. John Ferguson, ex-President of the Scottish Home Rule Association, presided. Mr. O'Donnell, M.P., addressed the meeting. He trusted that the movement which had been set on foot in Glasgow would be backed up until, in the next session of Parliament, Her Majesty's Ministers would know beyond all doubt that Ireland was in earnest. Mr. Barry, of Manchester, said that such an assembly of Irish bone and sinew as he saw around him was a grand sight to an Irish nationalist, because sooner or later bone and sinew would be an important factor in the settlement of their dispute with the House of Commons. It was moved and carried that the time had fully arrived when the remaining



prisoners in the "Bastiles of Great Britain" should receive unconditional freedom.

The Home Rule Confederation of Great Britain has issued an announcement under the heading of "The Obstructionists," stating that Messrs. Parnell, M.P., and O'Connor Power, M.P., are about to address public meetings at Leeds, Bradford, and Liverpool.

The O'Donoghue, M.P., has written a letter to the Irish papers in which he speaks in severe terms of the Parnell and Biggar Obstructionists, condemning their course as absurd. He says he might as well be asked to prove his fidelity to Ireland by dancing a hornpipe on the floor of the House of Commons in company with Mr. Parnell and Mr. Biggar, as to accompany them in their policy; and he also condemns "skirmishers and skeddaddlers, and that lying section," as he calls it, of the Irish press, which represents our whole system of government as one vast machinery for the torture of the people.

### Epitome of News.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, and attended by the suite, will leave Osborne for Scotland this evening, travelling direct to Ballater, which will, it is expected, be reached to-morrow afternoon.

The King of Denmark was in London last week on a visit to his daughter, the Princess of Wales.

The Prince of Wales has been visiting the Crown Prince of Germany at Ostend.

The Prince of Wales landed at Portsmouth from Ostend on Saturday, and left for London. In the evening he attended the Promenade Concerts, Covent-garden, in company with the Princess of Wales and the King of Denmark.

The *Lancet* regrets to report that Prince Albert Victor has suffered a relapse. During the fifth week of the illness, from the 4th to the 11th inst., there was an intermission of the febrile state, and His Royal Highness's condition seemed to promise an uninterrupted convalescence. On Saturday last, the first day of the sixth week, the fever sharply returned, though with moderate intensity. The *Lancet* is glad, however, to be able to add that there have been no local complications, and that the case on the whole is progressing satisfactorily.

There is a rumour that Prince Leopold intends to take orders in the Church of England.

The Empress Eugénie arrived on Monday afternoon at Ryde, Isle of Wight, and proceeded to Sandown, where it is said she will take a house for the season.

Neither the Premier nor the Foreign Secretary will leave the immediate vicinity of London during the autumn. The whole Cabinet will reassemble shortly.

The Prime Minister passed through London on Saturday from Osborne on his way to Hughenden.

Mr. Herbert Gladstone, son of the ex-Premier, goes to Keble College as Lecturer in Modern History in October term.

Earl Russell celebrated on Saturday his eighty-fifth birthday. It is sixty-four years since he first entered Parliament as member for Tavistock, and thirty-one since he assumed his first premiership.

Lieutenant-Colonel Robert James Loyd Lindsay, V.C., M.P., has been appointed Financial Secretary to the War Department, in the room of the Hon. F. Stanley, M.P.

Wednesday being the *fete* day of the late Emperor Napoleon, the ex-Empress Eugénie and the Prince Imperial attended Divine service at the Roman Catholic Church, Chislehurst. A large number of French ladies and gentlemen were present; but, in accordance with express desire, no demonstration took place.

The *Wine Trade Review* anticipates that the year 1877 will be ranked as regards quality amongst the best of the century for champagne. The quantity, too, is abundant.

On Thursday evening, two men returning from their work on Mr. Gulliver's farm at Deddington, near Banbury, were struck by lightning, and one of them was killed on the spot. The other man was rendered unconscious for a time. He says that when he recovered consciousness he saw the deceased in flames. The survivor is considerably injured, and he is under medical treatment. The men were carrying their scythes on their shoulders at the time they were struck, and the electric fluid was attracted by the steel.

Mr. Tallerman telegraphs from Rouen:—"The Frigorifique has arrived from the River Plate with a cargo of fresh meat in fine condition, 112 days having elapsed since she commenced loading. This is the most severe test to which a large quantity of fresh meat has yet been submitted, and decides the question of bringing fresh meat from long distances and through the tropics."

Mr. O'Connor Power, M.P., has received a communication from the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the subject of the remaining Fenian prisoners, which is considered by their friends so far satisfactory that it leaves little doubt of the immediate release of Michael Davitt, and of the intention of the Government to consider the cases of some of the other prisoners.

At the recent meeting of the Liberal leaders of Northampton, it was resolved to invite Mr. Arthur Arnold to address a general meeting of the Liberal electors of that borough, with a view to nomination.

The charge of conspiracy against the three detective officers of Scotland-yard, Meiklejohn, Drusco-

vich, and Palmer, and Mr. Froggatt, solicitor, was resumed at Bow-street, before Sir James Ingham, on Saturday. The evidence of the convict Kurr, which has altogether occupied the time of the court for eight days and a half, was at length concluded, and the examination in chief of his fellow convict, Benson, was commenced. The further hearing of the case was fixed for Thursday next.

The North Northamptonshire election resulted in the return of Lord Burghley, the Conservative candidate, by a majority of 786 votes over Captain Wyatt-Edgell, the Liberal candidate, the numbers being 2,261 and 1,475. For Clare Sir Bryan O'Loughlen (Liberal Home Ruler) received 1,721 votes; The O'Gorman Mahon (Nationalist), 1,149 votes; and Mr. Reeves (Conservative), 764 votes. Sir Bryan O'Loughlen was therefore returned by a majority of 572.

### Miscellaneous.

**SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION AT STAPLEHURST, KENT.**—The third triennial election of the school board, consisting of five members, took place on Monday last. The Nonconformists have been in a majority on the board during the past three years, but a new rector of semi-ritualistic tendencies having come into the parish, strenuous efforts were made to displace one of the Dissenters, and put three Churchmen on the board, with Dr. Reyner, the new rector, in the chair. The result of the election is as follows:—Dr. Reyner, 296; Barling, Nonconformist, chairman of the late Board, 293; Chapman, Nonconformist, 272; Jull, Nonconformist, 256; Major Osborne, Churchman, 255; Reeves, Churchman, not elected, 249; the balance of power being still in the hands of the Nonconformists. The large and handsome schools, which are efficiently conducted, will be continued on the same broad principles, the attempt to hand over the management of the schools to the Church party having completely failed.

**THE ASHLEY DOWN ORPHANAGE.**—Mr. George Müller, of the Ashley Down Orphanage, Clifton, has just issued his annual report relative to the new orphan houses. During his prolonged absence on a preaching tour on the Continent he had received reports once or twice every week from Mr. Wright, whom he had left in charge. During the past year he says the Lord had been pleased, as during the previous forty-two years of the existence of the institution, simply through prayer, to supply all their necessities. Altogether last year the income was 41,500*l.* If this income were added to that of previous years it would be found that altogether, in answer to prayer and the exercise of faith, they had received 750,000*l.* sterling. Mr. Müller adds that the blessing attending his preaching tours everywhere on the continent as well as at home, had encouraged him to go on with this service. He had received many written invitations from Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Vienna, and St. Petersburg, but yielding to many urgent invitations from the United States and Canada, his next sphere of labour would be America.

**POOR-LAW RELIEF IN ENGLAND.**—The statement of the total cost of maintaining the indoor and of relieving the outdoor poor in England during the six months ended at Lady Day last, which has been recently issued by the Local Government Board, is on the whole, a very encouraging account. It shows that the relief to the poor, as represented in the total of those two chief items, has decreased, when compared with the same sums in 1871, no less than 492,000*l.* in round numbers, or 18½ per cent. But the more frequent employment of the workhouse as the test of real destitution has increased the cost of relief in that shape. During the Lady Day half-year, 1877, it was 851,435*l.*, against 786,747*l.* in 1871, or more by 64,688*l.* On the other hand, outdoor relief, the most corrupting form in which the legalised charity of England is administered to paupers, has fallen in the same period from 1,840,073*l.* to 1,238,573*l.*, thus showing a decrease of 556,000*l.*, or 30 per cent. in the half-year. This is the work of six months only. We may therefore hope when the year's account shall be before us, to put forth a decrease of something like a million sterling. All the divisions of the kingdom have contributed in large but unequal proportions to the result.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

**THE ARTISANS' AND LABOURERS' DWELLINGS COMPANY.**—On Wednesday Mr. T. Brassey, M.P., and Mr. J. G. Talbot, M.P., were elected directors of the Artisans', Labourers', and General Dwellings Company. Mr. E. Noel, M.P., who presided at the company's meeting, said that they had considerable hopes of being able to get the whole affair in order, and although they could not look for the returns they might have expected from such a great undertaking, they still looked for a very fair return. On Wednesday, Dr. Baxter Langley, chairman of the Artisans' Dwellings Company; Mr. Swindlehurst, secretary; and Mr. Saffery, estate agent, appeared again at Bow-street to answer the charge of defrauding the company. Mr. Walton, Mr. Hoskins, and Mr. Ruffell, formerly directors of the company, were called as witnesses. Mr. Walton stated that he received by post an envelope containing 600*l.* in notes. On the inside of the envelope was written in a strange handwriting "a present from a friend." The matter was a mystery to him, and he placed the notes in the bank for safety. Mr. Hoskins and Mr. Ruffell denied receiving any money in connection with the transactions upon which the charges are based. After

some further evidence, the defendants were committed for trial on the charges arising out of the Queen's Park and Cann Hall estates. They were admitted to bail, and the sureties of Dr. Langley were increased from 750*l.* to 1,000*l.* each.

**MR. RUSKIN AND MR. LOWE.**—Mr. Ruskin's periodical *Fors Clavigera* contains the following letter from Mr. Lowe:—"My dear Ruskin,—Thank you for yours, which I have read eagerly, but without being able to make out what you are at. You are hard on Mr. Keble and the poor lady who 'dresses herself and her children becomingly.' If ever your genuine brickmaker gets hold of her and her little ones—as he very likely may do some day—he will surely tear them to pieces, and say that he has your authority for thinking that he is doing God a service. Poor lady!—and yet dressing becomingly and looking pleasant are a great deal harder and better worth doing than brickmaking. You make no allowance for the many little labours and trials (the harder to do and bear, perhaps, because they are so little) which she must meet with, and have to perform in that trivial round of visiting and dressing. As it is, she is at least no worse than a flower of the field. But what prizes would she and her husband become if they did actually take to dilettante (i.e., non-compulsory) brickmaking! In their own way almost all 'rich' people, as well as the so-called 'poor'—who, man, woman, and child, pay £5 each per annum in taxes on intoxicating drinks—do eat their bread in the sweat of their faces; for the word you quote 'is very broad,' and more kinds of bread than one, and more kinds of sweat than one, are meant therein." "A letter, this," Mr. Ruskin says, "which every time I read it overwhelms me with deeper amazement."

**THE COLORADO BEETLE.**—A Glasgow telegram says:—"When the Glasgow Post Office authorities were this week sorting the mail from America they came upon a sample parcel containing a tin canister perforated at the top. Upon examination the canister was found teeming with living and dead Colorado beetles and locusts. They put the living to death and despatched the whole parcel to the London postal authorities. It is believed that the Colorado beetle discovered in the mail carriage between Plymouth and Bristol was a specimen in course of transit by post, portions of a perforated cardboard box having been found in the van; and the Post Office authorities have accordingly given instructions that the American mails shall be carefully watched on arrival, with a view to prevent the transmission of such dangerous insects alive. Two orders in council with reference to the Colorado beetle were published in a supplement to Friday's *Gazette*. The first forbids the landing from abroad of any substance likely to harbour the insect, and the second provides that notice shall be immediately given to the authorities by any one who discovers a beetle among the crop. It is also made illegal to sell or keep in any stage of existence any living specimen of the beetle. A penalty not exceeding 10*l.* is attached to a breach of regulations. The Colorado beetle, it appears, proves even more dangerous at Schildau than at Mulheim. Notwithstanding the Draconic measures adopted at Schildau, the insect has spread over twenty-five acres at Langen Reichenbach, near Torgau. The principal disinfectant applied at present is benzoline.

**THE INDIAN FAMINE.**—At the Mansion House on Thursday the Lord Mayor on taking his seat in the Justice-room, said, addressing the chief clerk—"Mr. Graham,—Before proceeding to the business of the day, I desire to draw public attention to the dire and dreadful famine which is now raging in Southern India, and especially in the presidency of Madras. The subject, as you are aware, formed an impressive paragraph in Her Majesty's Speech proroguing Parliament yesterday, and it was stated that the visitation had been, and was still, of extreme severity, and its duration likely to be prolonged. I will now read a telegram I have received, dated August 13, from the chairman of the famine relief committee. It is as follows:—"The committee earnestly solicit your lordship's powerful influence and support in an appeal for public assistance for the relief of the afflicted populations of Southern India. The position is extremely grave. There is very great and increasing mortality from want, notwithstanding the utmost efforts of the Government. The monsoon has again been deficient. The difficulties will certainly last till January. Cattle have perished in large numbers, and among all the labouring classes there is very great destitution. Property is being sold for food. The villages have been largely deserted, and the poor are wandering in search of sustenance. The resources of the lower middle class are exhausted, owing to famine prices. Prompt liberal assistance and sympathy may mitigate the suffering." This telegram speaks for itself. Our countrymen at Madras call upon the municipalities at home, and their cry must be heard. We have hitherto been too little concerned with the awful trial that has befallen our fellow-subjects; let us redeem the past by keeping it before our eyes, and in our minds and hearts, until all that we can do is done, in order that it may be overcome. I shall be delighted to receive at the Mansion House, and to remit to the Duke of Buckingham and the other public authorities in India, any sums which the generous public may feel inclined to entrust to me, and I sincerely hope that the urgent appeal which I now make for funds will be promptly and liberally responded to." There has already been a liberal response to the Lord Mayor's appeal. Up to yesterday the sum £12,000 had been subscribed.



**ENDOWED CHARITIES.**—The return about the endowed charities of England and Wales obtained on the motion of Lord Robert Montagu, and delivered within this last week or two, affords an excellent specimen of carefully-prepared statistics—clear in arrangement and full, within the compass of a few pages. The Charity Commissioners have confined the figures to four tables, in which will be found for every county the items which make up the following amounts for the whole kingdom. The endowments are shown as arising from real and from personal estate. The income from both is stated to be 2,198,464*l.*; the extent of the real estate is given as 524,311*½* acres—which within a trifle, is equal to the area of Cambridge shire; rent thence derivable, 1,443,178*l.*; rent, charge and fixed annual payments, 115,073*l.*; this brings the income from realty up to 1,558,251*l.* Of the personalty, stock is returned as 17,418,251*l.*; other descriptions of personalty, 2,197,478*l.*—the income from both these sources being 640,213*l.* The objects of foundation or purposes to which the aggregate income is applicable are these:—Education, 646,882*l.*; apprenticing and advancement, 87,865*l.*; endowments of clergy, lecturers, and for sermons, 80,844*l.*; Church purposes, 112,895*l.*; maintenance of Dissenting places of worship and their ministers, 38,832*l.*; education of Dissenters, 19,981*l.*; public uses, 66,875*l.*; support of almshouses, their inmates, and pensioners, 552,119*l.*; distribution of articles in kind, 124,111*l.*; distribution of money, 176,891*l.*; general uses of the poor, 64,818*l.*; and medical charities, 199,140*l.* This exhausts 2,198,464*l.* The income of the endowed charities according to the commission of inquiry (1819-1837), was 1,199,223*l.*; but according to the general digest (1867-1876) the amount was 2,198,464*l.*—this discloses an increase of nearly 1,000,000*l.* sterling. This increase arose thus:—248,240*l.* derived from charities founded previous to 1819-1837, but not included in the reports of the commission of inquiry; derived from charities founded since, "by deed," 111,033*l.*; "by will," 115,919*l.*; and improved income of report endowments, 524,039*l.* The extent of the labours which were undertaken and accomplished by the Charity Commissioners in the earlier part of the present century was enormous. During the nineteen years 1818-1837 there were four separate commissions, who together made thirty-two reports, occupying thirty-eight folio volumes. The number of charities reported on was 28,880 with a total yearly income, which was returned at the sum of 1,209,395*l.* These endowed charities embrace many purposes besides the relief of poverty, which in the popular sense is attached to the word charity. A judicial definition of "charity" describes it as "a general public use, which extends to the poor as well as the rich." The purposes set out by the 43rd Elizabeth, c. 4, include, among a variety of objects which in ordinary parlance would be called charitable, the "repair of bridges, ports, havens, causeways, churches, sea banks, and highways"; "for or towards relief, stock, or maintenance for houses of correction."—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

**THE LATE MR. W. LONGMAN.**—The whole of the publishing houses in Paternoster-row and vicinity were partially closed on Friday in token of the respect in which the late Mr. W. Longman was held by his brethren in the trade. The *Athenæum* says:—"Mr. William Longman at an early age entered his father's business, and in 1839 he was made a partner in the firm, and after Mr. T. N. Longman's death, in 1842, the chief direction of affairs passed into the hands of William Longman and his elder brother, the present Mr. Thomas Longman, who had been a partner since 1832. The eight-and-thirty years during which the deceased gentleman had a share in the firm were marked by several publications memorable in English literature. Indeed, the year in which the two brothers succeeded to the control of the business was that of the production of the 'Lays of Ancient Rome,' the first of the great 'hits' which made Macaulay such an hero in the eyes of booksellers. His 'Essays' from the *Edinburgh*, the first two volumes of the 'History,' and, above all, the second two issued on December 17, 1855, which produced the celebrated cheque for 20,000*l.*, were all of them events of magnitude in the annals of the trade, only to be rivalled, if rivalled at all, by the 'Waverley Novels' in former days and Victor Hugo's books at the present time. Many other notable successes have attended the proceedings of the house in later times. Colenso's book on the Pentateuch, 'The Greville Memoirs,' 'Lothair,' and several other publications, have achieved wide circulations; while ventures of a different sort, such as Ure's Dictionary, have a steady and constant sale that make them valuable properties. The acquisition of Mr. Parker's stock and business connection in 1863 made the house publishers for many writers of note who had hitherto issued their books from the West Strand, such as Mr. Mill, Mr. Froude, and the late Sir Cornwall Lewis. To conclude this brief notice of the events of Mr. Longman's business career, we may mention, 'The Traveller's Library,' one of the best collections of cheap literature we have had. Mr. Longman did not, however, confine himself to publishing for other people. He was himself an author, and we owe to him the excellent 'Lectures on the History of England' down to the reign of Edward III., and afterwards an elaborate Life of that monarch, which would be a credit to a writer who could devote his whole time to historical research, and was, therefore, still more honourable to one who had such heavy calls on

his time. Mr. Longman's historical and æsthetic tastes also led him to take an active interest in the proposed decoration of St. Paul's. He not only served on the committee appointed for that purpose, but he also wrote a monograph on the 'Three Cathedrals dedicated to St. Paul in London.' Mr. Longman was fond of travelling. His first attempt at authorship, indeed, was a privately-printed volume, describing a 'Six Weeks' Tour in Switzerland'; and some two years ago he contributed 'Impressions of Madeira in 1875' to *Fraser's Magazine*. He was at one time president of the Alpine Club; and his last contribution to literature was the commencement of some remarks on 'Modern Mountaineering, and the History of the Alpine Club,' which appeared in the *Alpine Journal* last February. This must unfortunately remain a fragment. He also wrote 'Suggestions for the Exploration of Iceland.' Mr. Longman's courtesy and kindness of heart had won for him a large circle of friends, not in London only, but also in Hertfordshire, where he had a country house and passed a good deal of time, taking a warm interest in local affairs. Indeed his 'Lectures on English History' were originally intended to instruct his neighbours at Chorley-wood. He leaves behind a widow and eight children. One of his sons, Mr. C. J. Longman, is engaged in the business, and with two sons of Mr. T. Longman—Mr. Thomas N. Longman, a partner in the firm, and Mr. G. Longman—represents in Paternoster-row the fifth generation of the great publishing-house."

### Cleanings.

A New Bedford teacher asked his class to explain the difference between "dear" and "deer." One bright little fellow exclaimed: "One is a biped and the other is a quadruped."

**THE POPE'S STOCKING.**—Among the many pilgrims who have of late visited Rome was an old French lady, who undertook the pilgrimage, according to an Italian paper, under circumstances of no ordinary interest. She had for some time suffered from an affection of the leg of so serious a nature that, acting under the advice of eminent physicians, she at last consented to have the limb amputated as the only chance of restoration to health. On the day, however, before that on which the operation was to take place one of her friends persuaded her to defer it until she had tried the effect of a stocking in his possession that had been worn by the Pope, and which he asserted would infallibly cure her. She accordingly put on the stocking, and, to her surprise and delight, at the end of a few days was able to walk about as thoroughly cured as though she had never laboured under any infirmity. Having made a vow that if the remedy proved successful she would perform a pilgrimage to Rome, she lost no time in redeeming this pledge; and, on being ushered into the presence of the Pope, prostrated herself with emotion before His Holiness, enthusiastically thanking him for the benefit she had derived from the use of his stocking. After hearing her story, the Pope coldly replied, "You are most fortunate. One of my stockings has healed you and restored you a leg. As for myself, I put two of them on each morning, yet I am not able to walk or even stand upright on my legs, and am obliged," he added bitterly, "to be wheeled about in a chair."—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**—Liver, Lungs, and Kidneys.—A large number of internal maladies arise from obstructions over the removal of which these celebrated Pills exercise the most perfect control. A course of them is strongly recommended as a remedy for almost all chronic affections—as liver complaint, congestion of the lungs, torpidity of the kidneys, and other functional disorders which cause much present suffering, and if neglected lay the foundation of innumerable diseases. Holloway's Pills are especially adapted for the young and delicate; their gentle and purifying action places them above all other medicines. In indigestion, nervous affections, gout, and rheumatism these Pills have raised for themselves a universal fame. They expel all impurities from the blood, and thus restore cheerfulness and vigour.

**INVALIDS.**—Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis, Diseases of the Heart, Dropsy, and Tumours quickly cured by Abercrombie's New Solvent Process. Success testified by many ministers and others, with their respective names and addresses added. Inquiry courted. Post Free Six Stamps.—10, Claremont-square, London, N.

**CARDINAL ECRU, OR CREAM.—JUDSON'S DYES.**—White goods may be dyed in five minutes. Ribbons, silks, feathers, scarfs, lace, braid, veils, handkerchiefs, cloths, bernouses, Shetland shawls, or any small article of dress, can easily be dyed without soiling the hands. Violet, magenta, crimson, mauve, purple, pink, ponceau, claret, &c. Sixpence per bottle. Sold by Chemists and Stationers.

**OLDRIDGE'S BALM OF COLUMBIA.**—By the increasing demand for this famed Balm may be estimated its value and efficacy for replenishing, invigorating, and preserving the Hair either from falling off or turning grey. Without it no toilet is complete. It imparts to the hair a bright and glossy appearance, frees it entirely from scurf, and will not soil the most delicate fabric worn as head-dress "at home" or in promenade. In the "lunacy" its use is invaluable, as it forms in infancy the basis of a healthy and luxuriant head of hair. Sold by all perfumers and chemists, at 3*s.* 6*d.*, 6*s.*, and 11*s.* only. Wholesale and retail by the proprietors, C. and A. Oldridge, 22, Wellington-street, seven doors from the Strand, London, W.C.

**TEETH, £1 TO £10 10*s.*—THE COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET OF FOURTEEN PURE MINERAL TEETH,** fitted and fixed to the mouth without pain. The extraction of stumps, loose or decayed teeth not being necessary in any case. This perfectly painless system of adapting artificial teeth to the mouth is protected by Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent; and a written guarantee given with every case that they will not decay or change colour. 54, Rathbone-place, Oxford-street, near Tottenham-court-road. Mr. M. E. Toomey, Surgeon-Dentist.

**ENGLAND VERSUS FRANCE.**—For generations Chocolate has been imported in large quantities into this country from France. We are glad to find the tables turned at last, and that Cadbury's, the Makers of the well-known Cocoa Essence, have opened elegant premises at 90, Finsbury St. Honoré, Paris.—Their Cocoa Essence being perfectly genuine is a beverage far better suited to warm climates than the thick heavy compounds of Cocoa with sugar and starch generally sold.

### Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

#### BIRTHS.

**SWEET.**—Aug. 15, at the Mause, Romford, the wife of the Rev. Frederick Sweet, of a son (stillborn).  
**DUNCALF.**—Aug. 16, at Mevagissey, Cornwall, the wife of W. W. Duncalf, of a son.

#### MARRIAGES.

**HENRICI, KENNEDY.**—Aug. 15, at the Congregational Church, Kentish Town, by the father of the bride, Olaus Henrici, Ph.D., F.R.S., Professor of Mathematics, University Coll., London, to Helen Stodart, daughter of the Rev. John Kennedy, D.D., of Stepney.  
**CLOWES—WATERS.**—Aug. 15, at Camden-road Chapel, by the Rev. Francis Tucker, Frank Clowes, D. St. Lond., of Sidmouth-road, Newcastle-under-Lyme, son of the late Rev. Francis Clowes, to Mabel Helen, only daughter of the late Robert Waters, of Oakhurst Lodge, Tufnell Park.  
**ROGERS—CRAVEN.**—Aug. 15, at the New-road Congregational Church, Thornton, near Bradford, by the Rev. J. G. Rogers, of Clapham, London, father of the bridegroom, the Rev. Stanley Rogers, of Liverpool, to Annie, daughter of the late Joseph Craven, Esq., J.P., of Fern Lodge, Clapham Park, and Lexden-terrace, Tenby.

#### DEATHS.

**ROGERS.**—June 18, on board the Cashmere, Ellen Mary Ethel, infant daughter of the Rev. Thos. and Louisa Rogers. Interred in the Island of Anoube.  
**ROGERS.**—July 5, lost in the wreck of the Cashmere, off Cape Gardafui, Louisa Susannah, beloved wife of Rev. T. Rogers, aged 23.  
**ROGERS.**—Albert William, son of Rev. Thos. and Louisa Rogers, also lost in the wreck of the Cashmere, aged 2 years.  
**PATTISON.**—Aug. 15, at De Montfort-street, Leicester, after a short but severe illness, Anne Butwell, the beloved wife of Ernest Pattison, and daughter of Thos. Adams, of Birmingham.  
**STROYAN.**—Aug. 15, at his residence, Bronshaw, Burnley, the Rev. Jno. Stroyan, deeply beloved and lamented. Friends will please accept this intimation.  
**HUMPHREYS.**—Aug. 21, at Wellington, Somerset, Sarah, wife of Rev. G. W. Humphreys. Friends will please accept this intimation.

**EPPS'S COCOA.**—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast-tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette.* Sold only in packets labelled—"JAMES EPPS & CO., Homœopathic Chemists, London."

**PERFECTION.**—Mrs. S. A. ALLEN'S World's Hair Restorer never fails to restore grey hair to its youthful colour, imparting to it new life, growth, and lustrous beauty. Its action is speedy and thorough, quickly banishing greyness. Its value is above all others. A single trial proves it. It is not a dye. It ever proves itself the natural strengthener of the hair. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers.

Mrs. S. A. ALLEN has for over 40 years manufactured these two preparations. They are the standard articles for the hair. They should never be used together, nor Oil nor Pomade with either.

Mrs. S. A. ALLEN'S Zyllo-Balsamum, a simple tonic and hair-dressing of extraordinary merit for the young. Premature loss of the hair, so common, is prevented. Prompt relief in thousands of cases has been afforded where the hair has been coming out in handfuls. It cleanses the hair and scalp, and removes dandruff. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers.

**RECKITT'S PARIS BLUE.**—The marked superiority of this Laundry Blue over all others, and the quick appreciation of its merits by the public has been attended by the usual result—viz., a flood of imitations. The merit of the latter mainly consists in the ingenuity exerted, not simply in imitating the square shape, but making the general appearance of the wrappers resemble that of the genuine article. The manufacturers beg therefore to caution all buyers to see "Reckitt's Paris Blue" on each packet.

### Advertisements.

**CHARITY COMMISSION.**—In the matter of the Foundation known as the PROTESTANT DISSIDENTS ORIGINAL CHARITY SCHOOL in the Parish of Shadwell, in the County of Middlesex, and in the matter of the Endowed Schools Act, 1869, 1873, and 1874.

NOTICE is HEREBY given that the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, acting under the above-named Acts, have prepared the draft of a scheme for the future administration of this Foundation.

Any objections or suggestions respecting such scheme should be addressed in writing to the Secretary, Charity Commission, Whitehall, London, S.W., before the 24th day of October next.

Printed copies of the scheme will lie for public inspection at the office of the Charity Commission, Whitehall, aforesaid, and also at the Secretary's Office, at the House of the British and Foreign School Society, in the Borough-road. Copies may be purchased at the price of Threepence each, of Mr. Toms, the Depository of the said Society, 72, Lancaster-street, S.E., or on application to the Secretary of the Charity Commission, by letter enclosing Three Penny Postage Stamps per copy.

(Signed) D. C. RICHMOND.

14th August, 1877.

**STAMFORD TERRACE ACADEMY, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.**

Established 1829, by the late Mr. Sunderland. Prospectuses, &c., will be forwarded on application to DANIEL F. HOWORTH, Principal.



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GOLD PRESENTATION  
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JOHN BENNETT, having  
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## MIDLAND RAILWAY.

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	DOWN TRAINS.—WEEKDAYS.					SUN.
	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	
LONDON (St. Pancras) dep.	5 15	10 30	8 0	9 15	9 15	
Edinburgh..... arr.	4 30	8 40	6 0	7 45	7 45	
Glasgow..... "	5 0	9 5	...	7 50	7 50	
Greenock..... "	5 42	9 51	...	8 49	8 49	
Perth..... "	9 20	11 35	8 40	11 5	11 5	
Aberdeen..... "	3 20	3 20	12 40	4 5	4 5	
INVERNESS..... "	...	8 55	2 45	6 25	6 25	

A—Pullman Sleeping Car from St. Pancras to Perth.  
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These Cars are well ventilated, fitted with Lavatory, &c.,  
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EQUALED FOR COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE in travelling.  
The charge for a seat in Drawing-Room Cars is 5s., and for a  
Berth in Sleeping Car 8s., in addition to the First Class  
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Through Carriages are run between St. Pancras, Perth,  
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leaving St. Pancras at 9.15 p.m. on Saturday nights has no  
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A through Carriage is run from St. Pancras to Greenock by  
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For further particulars see the Company's Time-Tables.

JAMES ALLPORT,  
General-Manager.

Derby, August, 1877.

**ASYLUM for FATHERLESS CHILDREN,**  
Redham, near Croydon.

The Board of Management very earnestly APPEAL for  
further AID from the benevolent and friends of the father-  
less, to maintain 280 Children now in the Asylum. There is  
no endowment.

T. W. AVELING, D.D., Hon. Sec.  
Office: 6, Finsbury-place South, E.C.

**THE OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL,**  
THAME, OXON.

ESTABLISHMENT FOR YOUNG LADIES.  
Conducted by Mrs. P. H. PEARCE  
(Eldest daughter of Mr. J. Marsh, of Howard House School.)

Mrs. Pearce has removed to the above spacious house,  
which is well adapted for school purposes, containing lofty  
school-rooms, and standing in its own grounds, which con-  
sist of large playground, garden, and croquet lawns.

In this School the course of instruction is on the most  
approved system of modern education, combined with the  
domestic comforts of a private family. Pupils from this  
School have successfully passed the Cambridge Local Exami-  
nations in honours.

References permitted to parents of present and former  
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**THE ADDISCOMBE HIGH SCHOOL**  
(Boarding) for YOUNG LADIES, MOIRA HOUSE,  
Upper Addiscombe, Croydon, Surrey.

Principals—  
Mr. and Mrs. INGHAM and the Misses CONNAH.  
Conducted in consonance with the movement for the  
higher education of Ladies.

French, German, and Music (Practical and Theoretical) are  
made special objects of study, and most effectively taught.  
Prospectuses, with names of Referees and full particulars,  
may be had on application to the Principals.

**NORWOOD ORPHAN SOCIETY,**  
for the TRAINING UP of BEREAVED  
CHILDREN in CHRISTIAN FAMILIES. Approved  
cases received in the order of application. No voting.  
CONTRIBUTIONS are earnestly requested in aid of this  
new charity, and will be thankfully received and acknow-  
ledged by the Treasurer, Watson Osmond, Esq., 60, Fea-  
church-street, E.C., and Netherton, Penge-lane, Sydenham;  
or the Hon. Secretary, Rev. G. T. Carter, Sunny Bank,  
South Norwood, S.E. Post-office orders to be made pay-  
able at the General Post Office. Cheques to be crossed  
London and South-Western Bank.

**STROUD LADIES' COLLEGE, BEECHES**  
GREEN, STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.  
Principals—The Misses HOWARD.  
HALF TERM began MONDAY, June 18.

**OXFORD COUNTY MIDDLE-CLASS**  
**SCHOOL.**  
(HOWARD HOUSE SCHOOL, THAME).

The success of this School for thirty-six years arises from  
the fact that great attention is paid to subjects required in  
commercial life. Boys have excelled in good writing, arith-  
metic, French, book keeping, and mercantile correspondence.  
Pupils from this school have passed the Pharmaceutical  
Society's Examinations and the Oxford and Cambridge  
Local Examinations in honours. References to parents in  
all parts of England. Inclusive terms twenty-two or  
twenty-four guineas.

For views and prospectus apply to the principals, Messrs.  
J. and J. W. Marsh.

**SPRING HILL COLLEGE,**  
BIRMINGHAM.

The NEXT SESSION of this College will commence in  
the second week of SEPTEMBER. One Scholarship of the  
value of £50 per annum, tenable for two years, is open for  
competition amongst Students for the Congregational  
Ministry who enter then. All necessary information will be  
given by, and applications for admission should be made  
without delay to, the Hon. Secretary, the Rev. F. Stephens,  
Birchfield, Birmingham.

**LYME HOUSE SCHOOL, EYTHORNE,**  
DOVER (Established over fifty years).

Principal—Rev. T. DAVIES. Terms, 30 to 40 guineas per  
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at giving a sound physical, mental, and moral education.  
Reference to Ministers and others.

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HEAD MASTER—  
ALEXANDER WAUGH YOUNG, Esq., M.A. (Lon-  
don), Gold Medalist in Classics, late Andrew's Scholar  
and First Prizeman in Higher Senior Mathematics of  
University College, London, Fellow of University College,  
London.

SECOND MASTER—  
JAMES SHAW, Esq., B.A., (London), First in the First-  
class at both First and Second B.A. Examinations,  
ASSISTED BY NINE OTHER MASTERS.

There are five Scholarships connected with the College.  
Boys are prepared for the Universities, the Professions, and  
for Commerce.

Nine Seniors and twenty-six Juniors, out of a school of a  
hundred pupils, passed the last Cambridge Local Exami-  
nation, thirteen with honours—one the first Senior in Eng-  
land, who obtained the Syndicate's prize of £12, the Hatheron  
Scholarship of £40 per annum, and the offer of the Sizarship  
given by St. John's College, Cambridge, (to which is added  
£20 a-year) to the first in Greek and Latin.

There is a large swimming-bath on the College premises.  
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The Assets available for these Debentures are of the most undeniable character, and consist of—

Uncalled Capital	£767,800
Alexandra Palace Estate:—	
Purchase Price	£408,000
Less Mortgage	200,000
	158,000
Enhanced value of Building Land as per annexed Report of Mr. Ashdown, estimated at	100,000
Making a total of	1,077,800
Subject to Debentures issued in 1875	£350,000
Less amount drawn and paid off	105,000
	245,000
	£782,800

exclusive of Railway Stocks of a nominal value of £1,479,531. As the Palace under the Leases is very successful, the security offered is ample.

These Debentures are issued for and are applicable to the Alexandra Palace Estate purchase and the immediate development, with a view to sale, of the Building Land of that Estate, a site unrivalled in the vicinity of the Metropolis and unequalled for railway accommodation, having at present the Great Northern and the North London, with termini both at the Palace and at Wood Green, and the Great Eastern at Wood Green. (This line will be completed and opened shortly). There is also the London, Chatham, and Dover from Victoria, connecting the Land with every Station of the outer Metropolitan Circle. Thus every resident on the Estate will be within a quarter of an hour's walk of a Station, and within half-an-hour's rail of the City, at Broad-street, Moorgate-street, Ludgate-hill, and Aldgate. There may ere long be two more Railways, the Midland and the Metropolitan, on the property.

The total area of the Building Land is 310 acres, the Bill in Parliament this Session having become law and received the Royal Assent. It detaches from the Park 75 acres. The outside Building Land (exclusive of the 16 acres of The Grove, and the 75 acres detached by the Act of Parliament) shows frontages, according to the plan prepared by Mr. John Ashdown, Architect and Surveyor to the Conservative Land Society, who has had extensive and successful experience in the Development of Building Estates near London, which would produce, as set forth in his Report hereto attached, a fairly estimated ground rent of £13,000 a year.

At Wood Green, where within a few years the population has increased from a few hundreds to over 8,000 inhabitants, the demand for houses so far exceeds the supply that they are sold and let before they are finished, and land is being covered to yield over £2,000 per acre. The Alexandra Palace Building Land is better situated in every respect.

It is contemplated to have a public road constructed through the centre of the land, and to contract with one or more builders to commence operations at the different points available on the Estate, so as to insure its development as speedily as possible.

So soon as the main public road is complete, it will open up a frontage commanding a Ground Rent of £2,500 a year. About thirty acres now abutting on public roads are at present ripe for building.

Investors will have the option, either of taking £50 Debentures having five years to run at 5 per cent., with interest coupons attached, payable half-yearly; or, in lieu of annual interest, may take £40 Debentures participating in drawings proposed to commence at the end of two years, each £40 drawn being payable at £50, thus giving a higher rate of interest, as illustrated in the following table. The drawings will be in sums of not less than ten per cent. of the amount so issued. Debentures bearing interest will not participate in drawings. The following table, based on the calculation of drawings not being held for two years, shows the advantage of this form of investment:—

Assume five Debentures to be held, subject to redemption by drawings at the end of 2, 3, 4, and 5 years. Original price, £40 for £50 Debenture.

If all were drawn at the end of 2 years the interest realised			
Ditto	3	ditto	8 1/2 "
Ditto	4	ditto	6 1/2 "
Ditto	5	ditto	5 "
1 Debenture drawn at end of 2 years	3	Interest realised	
1 do.	4	would be	
1 do.	5		
2 Debentures do.	5		£7 8s. 4d. per cent.
1 Debenture drawn at end of 2 years	3	Interest realised	
1 do.	4	would be	
1 do.	5		
2 Debentures do.	5		£7 13s. 4d. per cent.
1 Debenture drawn at end of 2 years	3	Interest realised	
1 do.	4	would be	
1 do.	5		
2 Debentures do.	5		£8 1s. 8d. per cent.
1 Debenture drawn at end of 2 years	3	Interest realised	
1 do.	4	would be	
1 do.	5		
2 Debentures do.	5		£8 18s. 4d. per cent.

The Debentures will be issued to bearer, but can be registered, if required.

Prospectus and Forms of Application may be obtained at the Offices of the London Financial Association, 113, Cannon-street, E.C., at the Bankers, and through any Stock and Share Broker.

113, Cannon-street,  
London, 8th August, 1877.

## REPORT OF MR. ASHDOWN

(Referred to in the above Prospectus).

To the Directors of the

LONDON FINANCIAL ASSOCIATION  
(LIMITED),  
113, CANNON STREET, E.C.

## ALEXANDRA PALACE BUILDING ESTATE.

GENTLEMEN,—

In the month of April last I had the honour to make for you a Report and Valuation of the above property based upon a plan for the laying out of such property as prepared in 1875 by (I presume) the Surveyor then acting for the Muswell Hill Estate Company.

You will no doubt remember that after making such Report and Valuation I expressed a strong opinion that the plan submitted to me did not develop the property to the best advantage, and that a very much greater commercial return might be secured by a different treatment of the Estate.

Upon this I received your instructions to re-lay out the Estate, which after careful consideration I have done, and having due regard to the class of property in my judgment best suited to the locality, have succeeded in preparing a plan which I have no hesitation in saying will produce in commercial return Ground Rents of upwards of £3,000 a year in excess of those which could be created by the plan of 1875.

As stated in my previous Report, a large extent of frontage is immediately available for building purposes without any outlay for works, while an expenditure of £8,950 in making the roads from Muswell Hill to Wood Green would open up a frontage commanding a Ground Rent of £2,500 a year.

After mature consideration I am of opinion that Ground Rents to the amount of £13,000 per annum may be secured upon the Estate (irrespective of "The Grove" and the Land to be detached from the Palace under the Act of this Session). This sum capitalised at twenty years' purchase, a low average price, would give £260,000; and if to this be added the value of "The Grove," and the Land to be detached before referred to, the gross value may be taken at £340,000.

It would, of necessity, take a number of years to arrive at this result; but inasmuch as the rest of the Palace and Park will, it is assumed, pay interest on the CAPITAL ACCOUNT OF BOTH PALACE AND BUILDING LAND, you will not have interest running against outlay, and can afford to wait and realise the GROSS PROFIT AS CREATED.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,  
(Signed) JOHN ASHDOWN.

33, Norfolk-street, S. and J.  
July 30th, 1877.

## BRITISH EQUITABLE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

4, QUEEN STREET PLACE, E.C.

CAPITAL:—A Quarter of a Million Sterling.

## TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT, MAY, 1877.

2,348 New Policies issued for	£419,410
New Annual Premium Income of	12,950
22,594 Policies in force for	4,014,886
Annual Premium Income thereon	124,810
Death Claims, Matured Policies and Bonuses.	41,869
From commencement paid for Claims	389,411
Laid by in the Twenty-second year	60,255
Accumulated Fund increased to	500,097

AVERAGE REVERSIONARY BONUS:—One and a Quarter per Cent. per Annum.

Mutual Assurance without Mutual Liability.

Policies payable in Lifetime by application thereto of the Profits.

Separate use Policies.

## THE GOVERNMENTS STOCK INVESTMENT COMPANY (Limited).

Paid-up Capital..... £300,000

## DEPOSITS RECEIVED AT FOLLOWING RATES OF INTEREST.

5 per Cent. for Two Years and upwards.  
4 " " One Year.  
Less than One Year according to Bank rates.

Deposit Notes issued under the Seal of the Company, with cheques or coupons attached to the half-yearly interest.

SECURITY TO DEPOSITORS.—The Securities in which their monies are invested and the additional guarantee of the Paid-up Capital.

Prospectuses and full information obtainable at the Office, 52, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

A. W. RAY, Manager.

## POSITIVE LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Head Office—34, Cannon-street, London.

## CHAIRMAN.

M. H. Chaytor, Esq., Chairman of Alliance Bank.  
TRUSTEES OF CENTRAL LIFE AND GUARANTEE FUNDS.  
The Rt. Hon. Sir Richard Couch (late Chief Justice of Bengal).  
Thomas Hughes, Esq., Q.C. | William Macandrew Esq., J.P.

## GROWTH OF THE LIFE FUNDS.

Consisting of the Net Premiums received and invested, at compound interest, in Trust for Policy-holders.

To 31st December, 1872.....	£4,293 14 8
" 31st December, 1873.....	27,324 4 8
" 31st December, 1874.....	57,820 5 0
" 31st December, 1875.....	85,224 9 5
" 31st December, 1876.....	108,886 8 11

## GUARANTEE FUND FOR POLICY-HOLDERS

(In addition to the above) —

CONSOLS. £51,080 2s. 11d.

Perfect Security to Policy-holders is afforded under the Positive System of Assurance.

The Rates of Premium for Short Term Policies have been reduced.

# MAGNETINE. DARLOW & CO., INVENTORS AND PATENTEES.

## DARLOW'S MAGNETINE APPLIANCES.

Are unapproachable for comfort of wear, safety or use, and durability of magnetic power. They are used and recommended by gentlemen eminent in the medical profession. In cases of

Gout and Rheumatism, Spinal, Liver, Kidney, Lung, Throat, and Chest Complaints, Epilepsy, Hysteria, General Debility, Indigestion, Hernia, Sciatica, Asthma, Neuralgia, Bronchitis, and other forms of Nervous and Rheumatic Affections.

MAGNETINE is unique as a perfectly flexible Magnet. It is an entirely original invention of Messrs. DARLOW & Co., improved by them on their previous invention patented in 1866, and possessing qualities which cannot be found in any other magnet. It is soft, light, and durable, elastic, flexible, and permanently magnetic.

## DARLOW'S MAGNETINE APPLIANCES.

## TESTIMONIALS.

From GARTH WILKINSON, Esq., M.D.  
M.R.C.S.E.

76, Wimpole-street, Cavendish-square, W.,  
June 15, 1876.

F. W. Darlow, Esq.  
Sir,—Since March, 1874, when I wrote to you to express my opinion, from experience, of the value of your Magnetic Appliances, I have been frequently asked by letter if my certificate was genuine, and if in the time since elapsed your inventions still approved themselves as beneficial in my practice. To both those questions I can answer by endorsing Magnetine as an arm which I am obliged to resort to in a good many cases.

In addition to the cases I before specified I can now add some experience of the utility of Magnetine in cases of debility, and as a local remedy in painful affections arising in the course of gout. Indeed, I am accustomed to prescribe it wherever topical weakness proceeds from a low vitality in the great nervous centres, or in the principal organs of assimilation, nutrition, and blood purification; also in weak throats from nervous exhaustion affecting the larynx.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
GARTH WILKINSON, M.D., M.R.C.S.E.

From CHARLES J. PLUMPTRE, Esq.,  
Lecturer on Public Reading and Speaking,  
King's College, London.

38, Hamilton-terrace, Maida-vale,  
March 10, 1877.

DEAR SIR,—I have had in the last few weeks more inquiries than ever in regard to my case as stated in the testimonial I sent you for insertion in your pamphlets. Some of the inquiries have been by letters, which I have duly answered, saying I have continued as well as a man can possibly be since wearing your Magnetic Belts, and those strangers who have called here, and seen my present robust condition, say they can scarcely believe or realise the fact that I could have been in the utterly prostrate condition I was when I first ordered the Belts from you. But I assure them all that there is not the slightest exaggeration in the statement I sent to you now nearly a year and a half ago. My sister-in-law, Mrs. Wade, of Dawlish, to whom I strongly recommended the Belts for chronic rheumatism, writes word that since she has worn them she has been much benefited. Mr. Serjeant Cox also tells me that since wearing the Belt for his sciatica he has been very much better. You will be glad to hear that, though in the fullest work from morning to night, I have never had the slightest return of any of the distressing symptoms of weight and pain in the brain, not even the slightest approach to an attack of giddiness, since my letter of testimonial was written to you, and, in fact, I am now as strong and well as a man can possibly be. I still always wear the body and spine Bands by day, and they are so comfortable and pleasant to wear that I think I shall continue to do so for the rest of my life, if you advise.—I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,  
CHARLES J. PLUMPTRE.

To F. W. Darlow, Esq.

From the Rev. CHARLES GARTH  
FULLERTON.  
Boothby Graffar Rectory, Lincoln,  
May, 18, 1877.

DEAR SIR,—I enclose cheque for the Wrist-let and Belt for my friend, and have great pleasure in saying that I have certainly found the Belt you sent me last November to be of the greatest benefit. With perfect truth I can say I should not like to be without one now. I have had no lumbago or rheumatism since I began to wear it; and you are quite welcome to use this letter as a testimonial.—From yours faithfully,  
(Rev.) CHARLES GARTH FULLERTON.

To Darlow and Co., 443, West Strand, London.

## MESSRS. DARLOW & CO.

Are honoured by the patronage of many of the highest families in the kingdom, including Ladies and Gentlemen in Her Majesty's Household and Members of both Houses of the Legislature. Gentlemen of the Legal and other learned Professions, Officers in the Army and Navy, Clergymen of all Denominations, Bankers, Merchants, etc., who have testified of the benefits derived from the use of Magnetine.

DARLOW & CO., SOLE PROPRIETORS,  
443, WEST STRAND, LONDON, W.C., 443,

OPPOSITE CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION.

Descriptive Pamphlets post free on application.

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